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OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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1916

THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
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Resolved, That the editing of the Discipline shall be a part of th official duties of the Book Editor, who may secure such help as he ma require.—*Journal*, 1916.

EDITOR EX OFFICIO
DAVID G. DOWNEY, Book Editor

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THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
New York

EPISCOPAL ADDRESS

To the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN: It is our privilege and duty to recommend to you this volume, which contains the DOCTRINES and DISCIPLINE of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which we believe are agreeable to the Word of God. Although the Word of God is the only sufficient rule of faith and practice, the Church, in the liberty given to it by the Lord, and following the example of other churches, ancient and modern, has modified its Discipline from time to time in order more fully to secure the end for which it was founded.

We believe that God's design in raising up the Methodist Episcopal Church in America was to aid in evangelizing the continent and "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands." Evidently God's blessing has been with us, and we have seen an extraordinary work extending throughout all the United States and Territories and throughout the British possessions in North America; also the planting of successful Missions in South

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America and Mexico. The Methodist Episcopal Church, in its organic form and spiritual power, has been established in Africa, Asia, and Europe, where God has given to it great prosperity.

During the period in which this work has been extending, the Church has revised its legislation to meet the demands created by its own activities and by the conditions of the different peoples among whom it strives to build up the Kingdom of God.

The peculiar Constitution and Administrative Rules of our Church, to which its success is largely due, deserve careful study. The Itinerant Ministry, the subpastorate through Classes, the Episcopacy, the District Superintendency, the Conferences in their gradation, the Local Ministry, the Judicial Administration, the Interdependence of Ministry and Laity, with the well defined duties and rights of each, are severally parts of a system which can be truly valued, profitably used, or wisely modified only by those who through loving and faithful study have become familiar with it.

Therefore this volume should be found in the home of every member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the more so because it contains the Doctrines maintained, in part or in whole, by every Evangelical Church.

The Order of Worship herein set forth (¶ 72)

we commend to your scrupulous observance. In substance it has been received from our Fathers, and has been approved by the judgment of the Church. If uniformly observed, it will continue to be both a token and a bond of unity throughout our wide-spread communion.

We remain your affectionate Brethren and Pastors:

Bishops

John H. Vincent,
Earl Cranston,
John W. Hamilton,
Joseph F. Berry,
William F. McDowell,
James W. Bashford,
William Burt,
Luther B. Wilson,
Thomas B. Neely,
William F. Anderson,
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Edwin H. Hughes,
Frank M. Bristol,
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Wilbur P. Thirkield,
Herbert Welch,
Thomas Nicholson,
Adna W. Leonard,
Matthew S. Hughes,
William F. Oldham,
Charles B. Mitchell,
Franklin Hamilton.

Missionary Bishops

James M. Thoburn,
Joseph C. Hartzell,
Frank W. Warne,
Isaiah B. Scott,
John E. Robinson,
Merriman C. Harris,
John W. Robinson,
William P. Eveland[1]
Alexander P. Camphor,
Eben S. Johnson.

[1]Deceased.

CONTENTS

All references, in both CONTENTS and INDEX, are to paragraphs (¶¶)

EPISCOPAL ADDRESS

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

THE CONSTITUTION

¶¶ 1–47

DIVISION — PARAGRAPH

I. ARTICLES OF RELIGION ..... ¶¶ 1–25

II. GENERAL RULES ..... ¶¶ 26–33

III. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT ..... ¶¶ 34–47

CHAPTER

I. PASTORAL CHARGES, QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES ..... ¶¶ 34–36

II. GENERAL CONFERENCE

ARTICLE

I. How Composed ..... ¶ 37
II. Ministerial Delegates ..... ¶ 38
III. Lay Delegates ..... ¶ 39
IV. Credentials ..... ¶ 40
V. Sessions ..... ¶ 41
VI. Presiding Officers ..... ¶ 42
VII. Organization ..... ¶ 43
VIII. Quorum ..... ¶ 44
IX. Voting ..... ¶ 45
X. Powers and Restrictions ..... ¶ 46
XI. Amendments ..... ¶ 47

LEGISLATION

PART I

THE CHURCH

I. MEMBERSHIP

Admission into Church ..... ¶ 48
Baptized Children and the Church ..... ¶¶ 49–54
Transfer of Membership ..... ¶¶ 55, 56
Affiliated Membership ..... ¶ 57
Non-Resident Membership ..... ¶ 58
Withdrawals ..... ¶ 59
Classes and Class Meetings ..... ¶¶ 60–64

Contents

CHAPTER — PARAGRAPH

II. Special Advices
- Slavery ¶ 65
- Dress ¶ 66
- Marriage ¶ 67
- Divorce ¶ 68
- Amusements ¶ 69
- Temperance ¶ 70
- Christian Stewardship ¶ 71

III. Worship
- Order of Public Worship ¶ 72
- Spirit and Truth of Singing ¶ 75

Part II

Conferences

I. General Conference [see ¶¶ 37–47]

II. Annual Conferences
- Number and Organization ¶¶ 74–79
- Order of Business ¶ 80
- Powers and Duties ¶¶ 81–87
- Statistician and Treasurer ¶¶ 88–92
  - Statistical Report ¶ 91, § 1
  - Sunday School Statistics ¶ 91, § 2
  - Conference Treasurer's Report ¶ 92

III. Lay Electoral Conferences
- Election of Delegates ¶ 93
- Laymen's Associations ¶ 94

IV. Central Mission Conferences ¶ 95

V. Mission Conferences ¶ 96

VI. District Conferences
- Organization and Duties ¶¶ 97–101
- Order of Business ¶ 102
- Discontinuance ¶ 103

VII. Quarterly Conferences
- Organization and Duties ¶¶ 104–107
- Order of Business ¶ 108
- Auditing and Records ¶¶ 109, 110
- Apportioned Benevolences ¶ 111

VIII. Official Board ¶ 112

IX. Leaders and Stewards' Meeting ¶ 113

[For Judicial Conference, see ¶ 292]

Part III

The Ministry

I. Qualifications and Work
- Call to Preach ¶ 114
- Rules for a Preacher's Conduct ¶¶ 115–126

Contents

CHAPTER		PARAGRAPH
	Spiritual Qualifications	¶¶ 127–134
	Profitable Use of Time	¶¶ 135–137
	Necessity of Union Among Ourselves	¶¶ 138, 139
	Deportment at Conference	¶¶ 140, 141
	Where and How to Preach	¶¶ 142–146
	Pastoral Fidelity	¶¶ 147–155
II.	Ministers and Annual Conferences	
	Reception on Trial	¶¶ 156–160
	Admission into Full Membership	¶¶ 161–164
	Ministers from Other Churches	¶¶ 165–167
	Ministers in Official Positions	¶ 168
	Termination of Conference Membership	
	By Location	¶¶ 169–170
	By Surrender of Ministerial Office	¶ 171
	By Withdrawal	¶ 172
	By Judicial Procedure	¶ 173
III.	Deacons	¶¶ 174–176
IV.	Elders	¶¶ 177–181
V.	Pastors	
	Duties	¶ 182
	Reports	¶ 183
	Special Restrictions	¶¶ 184, 185
VI.	Leave of Absence	¶ 186
VII.	Supernumerary Ministers	¶ 187
VIII.	Retired Ministers	¶ 188
IX.	District Superintendents	¶¶ 189–193
X.	Missionary Bishops	¶¶ 194–203
XI.	Bishops	
	How Constituted	¶¶ 204, 205
	Amenability	¶ 206
	Duties	¶¶ 207, 208
	Powers	¶¶ 209–215
XII.	Retired Bishops	
	General Superintendent	¶ 216
	Missionary Bishop	¶ 217
	General Provisions	¶ 218

Part IV

Local Preachers, Exhorters, Deaconesses

I.	Local Preachers	¶¶ 219–226
II.	Exhorters	¶¶ 227, 228
III.	Deaconesses	
	A Deaconess	¶ 229
	General Deaconess Board	¶¶ 230–232
	Annual Conference Deaconess Board	¶ 233

CHAPTER PARAGRAPH

Deaconess Institutions ¶ 234
The Probationary Deaconess ¶ 235
Licensed Deaconess ¶ 236
The Retired Deaconess—Her Support ¶ 237
Deaconess Relief Fund ¶ 238
Deaconess Work in Europe ¶ 239
Deaconess Work in Mission Fields ¶ 240

PART V

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

I. TRIAL OF A BISHOP
Investigation ¶¶ 241–245
Trial ¶ 246

II. TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP
Investigation ¶¶ 247–249
Trial ¶¶ 250, 251

III. TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Preliminary Investigation ¶¶ 252–263
Maladministration ¶ 264
Trial ¶¶ 265–269

IV. TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL ¶ 270

V. TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER ¶¶ 271–278

VI. TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER
Immoral Conduct ¶ 279
Imprudent Conduct ¶ 280
Neglect of Means of Grace ¶ 281
Causing Dissension ¶ 282
Disagreement in Business—Arbitration ¶¶ 283–285
Insolvency ¶¶ 286, 287
Penalties ¶¶ 288–290

VII. APPEAL OF A BISHOP ¶ 291

VIII. APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE ¶¶ 292–300

IX. RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS
When Voluntarily Surrendered ¶ 301
When Involuntarily Surrendered ¶¶ 302, 303

X. APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER ¶¶ 304, 305

XI. APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT OF APPEALS ¶¶ 306, 307

XII. GENERAL DIRECTIONS
Testimony and Notice ¶ 308
Records ¶ 309
Counsel ¶ 310
Charges ¶ 311
Trials ¶ 312
Appeals ¶ 313

Contents

Part VI

Temporal Economy

CHAPTER — PARAGRAPH

I. Ministerial Support
- Stewards ¶¶ 314–318
- Ministerial Support ¶¶ 319–322
- Support of Pastors ¶¶ 323–325
- District Stewards and Support of District Superintendents ¶¶ 326–328
- Support of Bishops ¶¶ 329–332
- Support of Conference Claimants
  - Claim ¶ 333
  - Permanent Endowments ¶ 334
  - Anniversaries ¶ 335
  - Apportionment ¶¶ 336, 337
  - Estimating Committee ¶ 338
  - Conference Stewards ¶ 339
  - Methods of Distribution ¶ 340
    - Annuity Distribution ¶¶ 341, 342
    - Necessitous Distribution ¶ 343
    - Connectional Relief Distribution ¶ 344
  - [For Board of Conference Claimants, see ¶¶ 482–487]

II. Church Property
- Trustees—Appointment and Duties ¶¶ 345–352
- Conveyance of Church Property ¶¶ 353–356
- Building Churches ¶¶ 357–359
- Mortgaging and Sale of Church Property ¶¶ 360–363
- Building and Renting Parsonages ¶¶ 364–368
- Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church ¶¶ 369–376
- Auditing and Bonding ¶ 377

III. Ladies' Aid Societies ¶ 378

Part VII

Institutions, Boards, and Societies

I. The Book Concern
- The Methodist Book Concern ¶ 379
- Book Committee ¶¶ 380–384
- Local Committees ¶¶ 385–387
- Publishing Agents ¶¶ 388–393
- Depositories ¶ 394
- Editors ¶¶ 395–403
- Circulation of Religious Tracts ¶¶ 404–406

II. Commission on Finance
- Constitution ¶¶ 407–409
- Disciplinary Financial Plan ¶ 410

Contents

CHAPTER		PARAGRAPH
III.	Board of Foreign Missions	
	Incorporation	¶ 411
	Constitution	¶¶ 412–420
	Foreign Missionary Society	¶ 421
	Administration of Foreign Missions	¶ 422
	Lay Male Missionaries in Annual Conferences	¶ 423
	Annual Conference Board	¶ 424
	District Board	¶ 425
	District Missionary Secretaries	¶ 426
	District Superintendents	¶ 427
	Pastors and Churches	¶ 428
IV.	Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	¶¶ 429, 430
V.	Board of Home Missions and Church Extension	
	Incorporation	¶ 431
	Board of Home Missions and Church Extension	¶¶ 432–437
	Department of Church Extension	¶ 438
	Department of City Work	¶¶ 439–442
	Department of Rural Work	¶¶ 443, 444
	Department of Frontier Work	¶ 445
	Department of Evangelism	¶ 446
	Annual Conference Boards	¶ 447
	Boards of Church Location	¶ 448
	Administration of Missions	¶ 449
VI.	Woman's Home Missionary Society	¶ 450
VII.	Freedmen's Aid Society	
	General Object	¶ 451
	Board of Managers	¶ 452
	Officers	¶ 453
	District Superintendents	¶ 454
	Pastors	¶ 455
VIII.	Board of Education	
	Constitution and Officers	¶¶ 456–464
	Annual Conference Board	¶ 465
	Educational Institutions	¶ 466
	University Senate	¶ 467
	District Superintendents	¶ 468
	Pastors	¶¶ 469–471
IX.	Board of Sunday Schools	
	Incorporation	¶ 472
	Corresponding Secretary	¶ 473
	Editor of Sunday School Publications	¶ 474
	Other Officers	¶ 475
	Conference Board of Sunday Schools	¶ 476
	Local Sunday School Board	¶ 477
	Sunday School Officers and Teachers	¶ 478
	District Superintendents	¶ 479
	Pastors	¶ 480
	Quarterly Conference Sunday School Committee	¶ 481

Contents

CHAPTER — PARAGRAPH

X. Board of Conference Claimants
- Authorization ¶ 482
- Officers ¶ 483
- Administration ¶ 484
- Connectional Relief ¶ 485
- Administration of Connectional Relief ¶ 486
- Reports ¶ 487

XI. Epworth League
- Constitution ¶ 488
- Presidents of Local Chapters ¶ 489
- District Superintendents and Pastors ¶¶ 490, 491

XII. American Bible Society ¶ 578

XIII. Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals ¶ 492

XIV. General Deaconess Board ¶¶ 229–240

XV. Chartered Fund ¶¶ 493, 494

Part VIII

Boundaries

I. Determining Boundaries ¶¶ 495–497

II. Boundaries of Annual Conferences
- United States and Territories ¶ 498
- Foreign Countries ¶ 499

III. Boundaries of Mission Conferences and Missions
- United States and Territories ¶ 500
- Foreign Countries ¶¶ 501–504

IV. Central Mission Conferences ¶ 505

V. Enabling Acts ¶ 506
- In the United States
  - To Unite Conferences or Missions ¶ 507
  - To Divide Conferences and Rearrange Boundaries ¶ 508
  - To Organize Conferences or Missions ¶ 509
- In Foreign Countries ¶ 510

Part IX

Ritual

I. Baptism
- Infants ¶ 511
- Adults ¶ 512

II. Reception of Members
- Form I—Preparatory Membership ¶ 513
- Form II—Full Membership ¶ 514
- Form III—Full Membership—Children ¶ 515

Contents

CHAPTER — PARAGRAPH

III. The Lord's Supper ¶ 519

IV. Matrimony ¶ 517

V. Burial of the Dead
- Form for the Burial of the Dead ¶ 518
- Form for the Burial of a Child ¶ 519

VI. Consecration and Ordination
- Form of Consecrating Bishops ¶ 520
- Form of Ordaining Elders ¶ 521
- Form of Ordaining Deacons ¶ 522
- Form for Consecrating Deaconesses ¶ 523

VII. Corner Stone and Dedication
- Form for Laying the Corner Stone of a Church ¶ 524
- Form for the Dedication of a Church ¶ 525

APPENDIX

I. Addresses of Bishops and General Officers
- Bishops ¶ 526
- Missionary Bishops ¶ 527
- General Conference Secretary ¶ 528
- Publishing Agents and Depositories—Book Concern ¶ 529
- Editors ¶ 530
- Corresponding Secretaries ¶ 531
- Treasurers ¶ 532

II. Administrative Boards and Societies
- Book Committee ¶ 533
- Foreign Missions ¶ 534
- Home Missions and Church Extension ¶ 535
- Freedmen's Aid Society ¶ 536
- Education ¶ 537
- University Senate ¶ 538
- Sunday Schools ¶ 539
- Conference Claimants ¶ 540
- Epworth League ¶ 541
- American Bible Society ¶ 542
- Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals ¶ 543
- General Deaconess Board ¶ 544
- Trustees of Chartered Fund ¶ 545
- Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church ¶ 546
- Trustees of John Street Church, New York ¶ 547
- Corporate Names ¶ 548
- General Conference Commissions ¶ 549

III. The General Conference
- Location and Entertainment ¶ 550
- Expenses of Adjourned Session ¶ 551
- Traveling Expenses of Delegates ¶ 552
- Memorials and Resolutions ¶ 553
- Rules of Order ¶ 554
- General Conference Districts ¶ 555

Contents

CHAPTER	PARAGRAPH
IV. General Conference Reports	
Examination of Annual Conference Journals	¶ 556
Report on Conference Journals	¶ 557
Report of General Conference Treasurer	¶ 558
Episcopal Supervision	
Contiguous and Continuous	¶ 559
Residential by Groups	¶ 560
V. General Conference Decisions	¶¶ 561–576
VI. Proposed Constitutional Change	
Admission of Laymen to Annual Conferences	¶ 577
VII. General Conference Resolutions	
American Bible Society	¶ 578
Board of Conference Claimants	¶ 579
Book Concern Produce to Foreign Conferences	¶ 580
Week of Prayer	¶ 581
Day of Prayer for Colleges	¶ 582
Temperance and Prohibition	¶ 583
Hospitals	¶ 584
Child Welfare	¶ 585
Social Creed of the Churches	¶ 586
Work Among Non-English-Speaking People	¶ 587
Benevolence Voucher	¶ 588
VIII. Unification and Federation	
Unification	¶ 589
Union with Churches other than Methodist Episcopal, South	¶ 590
Federal Council of Methodism	¶ 591
Federation of Colored Methodist Churches	¶ 592
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America	¶ 593
IX. Forms and Constitutions	
Constitution for Sunday School	¶ 594, § 1
Constitution for Sunday School Missionary Society	¶ 594, § 2
Formal Charges in Case of Trial	¶ 595
X. Courses of Study	
In General	¶ 596
Certificates	¶ 597
Method of Conducting Conference Examinations	¶ 598
For the Ministry	
English Courses	
For Traveling Preachers	¶ 599
For License to Preach	¶ 600
For Local Preachers	¶ 601
For Orders	¶ 602
For Class Leaders	¶ 603
German	¶¶ 604,'605
Norwegian and Danish	
In the United States	¶¶ 606–608
Norway Conference	¶¶ 609–612

Contents

CHAPTER PARAGRA

Danish ¶¶ 613–6
Swedish
In the United States ¶¶ 616–6
Sweden Conference ¶¶ 620–6
Finnish ¶¶ 624–6
Russian ¶¶ 629, 6
Italian ¶¶ 631–6
Spanish ¶ 6
Bulgarian ¶ 6
French ¶ 6
Other Courses ¶ 6
For Deaconesses ¶ 6

XI. Index ¶ 6

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

THE doctrine and spirit of Primitive Christianity have existed at different times and in different degrees in all branches of the kingdom of Christ among men. They were embodied in a new form on this wise:

"In 1729 two young men in England, reading the Bible, saw they could not be saved without holiness, followed after it, and incited others so to do. In 1737 they saw, likewise, that men are justified before they are sanctified; but still holiness was their object. God then thrust them out to raise a holy people."

This was the rise of Methodism, as given in the words of its founders, John and Charles Wesley, of Oxford University, Presbyters of the Church of England. Their evangelical labors were accompanied by an extraordinary divine influence; other Ministers and many Lay Preachers were raised up to aid them; and throughout England and in Scotland and Ireland arose *United Societies* of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness. These subsequently became the Wesleyan Churches of Great Britain.

In the year 1766 Philip Embury, a Wesleyan Local Preacher from Ireland, began to preach in New York City and formed a Society, now the John Street Church. Another Local Preacher, Thomas Webb, Captain in the British army, soon joined him and

also preached in the city of New York and its vicinity. About the same time Robert Strawbridge, from Ireland, settled in Frederick County, Maryland, preaching there and forming Societies. In 1769 Mr. Wesley sent to America two Itinerant Preachers, Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor, and in 1771 two others, Francis Asbury and Richard Wright. The work thus begun was signally owned of God, so that, at the close of the Revolutionary War, the number of Traveling Preachers was about eighty, and of members in the Societies about fifteen thousand.

When the Independence of the United States was acknowledged by the treaty of 1783, the American Methodists, most of whom had been members of the Church of England, according to the declaration of Mr. Wesley, were "totally disentangled both from the State and the English hierarchy." He added: "They are now at full liberty simply to follow the Scriptures and the Primitive Church, and we judge it best that they should stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has so strangely made them free." The parish clergy had mostly returned to England, and the Methodist Societies were without ordained Pastors. "For hundreds of miles together" they were destitute of the Christian sacraments.

As his children in the Gospel, they appealed to Mr. Wesley for advice and help, and he responded by ordaining Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as Presbyters (or Elders) for America; and also, since he preferred the Episcopal form of Church government, by setting apart, by prayer and by the imposition of hands, the Rev. Thomas Coke, Doctor of Civil Law, a Presbyter of the Church of England, to be a Superintendent, "to preside over the

flock of Christ" in America. In these services he was assisted by other ordained ministers. He also commissioned Dr. Coke to ordain, as joint Superintendent with himself, the Rev. Francis Asbury, then General Assistant for the American Societies. Mr. Wesley also prepared "Articles of Religion" and a "Sunday Service," both abbreviated from the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England. In the "Sunday Service" were included forms for the Administration of the Sacraments and for the ordination of Ministers.

At the "Christmas Conference," begun in Baltimore, Maryland, December 24, 1784, sixty Preachers met Dr. Coke and his companions. The plan of Mr. Wesley was submitted to them, and was unanimously and heartily approved. Thereupon they organized the METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, and adopted the Articles of Religion and the Sunday Service prepared by Mr. Wesley, adding to the Articles one containing a recognition of the new Civil Government, and inserting in the Ritual a prayer for the Supreme Rulers of the United States. They also enacted all laws necessary for the government of the new Church. Mr. Asbury was elected to the Episcopal office conjointly with Dr. Coke, by whom, with the assistance of several Presbyters, he was duly consecrated a Bishop. Others were ordained Deacons, and thirteen were elected Elders, and either then or soon thereafter were duly ordained, two of them for missionary work in Nova Scotia and one for like work in Antigua, in the West Indies.

Such was the origin of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the first with an Episcopal form of government to attain an independent existence in the new

Republic. While its polity and administrative rules have been modified from time to time to meet changing conditions and opportunities, it remains unchanged in doctrine and in ministerial offices. Coeval with the Republic, it has expanded with it, and has ministered to its moral and religious life. At this date (1916) its ministers and communicants, not including adherents, number more than four millions. Other Methodist Churches, derived from the original root, flourish by its side. Obviously its founders were wise and godly men, fulfilling the purpose of the great Head of the Church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has always believed that the only infallible proof of the legitimacy of any branch of the Christian Church is its ability to seek and to save the lost, and to disseminate the Pentecostal spirit and life. The chief stress has ever been laid, not upon the forms but upon the essentials of religion. It holds that true Churches of Christ may differ widely in ceremonies, ministerial orders, and government. Its members are allowed freedom of choice among the debated modes of Baptism. If any member has scruples against receiving the Lord's Supper kneeling, he is permitted to receive it standing or sitting. In ordinary worship its people are invited to unite in extemporary prayer, but for the Administration of the Sacraments, Ordinations, the Solemnization of Matrimony, the Burial of the Dead, and other special services, a Liturgy is appointed, taken in large part from Rituals used by the Universal Church from ancient times.

The sole object of the rules, regulations, and

usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church is that it may fulfill to the end of time its original divine commission as a leader in evangelization, in all true reforms, and in the promotion of fraternal relations among all branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ, with which it is a co-worker in the spiritual conquest of the world for the Son of God.

THE CONSTITUTION

I. ARTICLES OF RELIGION
II. THE GENERAL RULES
III. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Preamble

In order the better to preserve our historic heritage, and the more effectually to cooperate with other branches of the one Church of Jesus Christ in advancing the kingdom of God among men, we, the ministers and laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in accordance with the methods of constitutional legislation in force among us, hereby ordain, establish, and set forth as the fundamental law or Constitution of the Methodist Episcopal Church the Articles of Religion, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government, here following, to wit:

DIVISION I

ARTICLES OF RELIGION

I. *Of Faith in the Holy Trinity*

¶ 1. There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

II. *Of the Word, or Son of God, who was made very Man*

¶ 2. The Son, who was the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided; whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father (to us) and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

III. *Of the Resurrection of Christ*

¶ 3. Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

IV. *Of the Holy Ghost*

¶ 4. The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. *The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation*

¶ 5. The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures we do understand those canonical books of the Old and

New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Cantica or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less.

All the books of the New Testament as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. *Of the Old Testament*

¶ **6.** The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth; yet, notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. *Of Original or Birth Sin*

¶ **7.** Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally

is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

VIII. *Of Free Will*

¶ 8. The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. *Of the Justification of Man*

¶ 9. We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

X. *Of Good Works*

¶ 10. Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

XI. *Of Works of Supererogation*

¶ 11. Voluntary works—besides, over, and above God's commandments—which are called works of su-

pererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required: whereas Christ saith plainly: When ye have done all that is commanded of you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

XII. *Of Sin after Justification*

¶ 12. Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification: after we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

XIII. *Of the Church*

¶ 13. The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

XIV. *Of Purgatory*

¶ 14. The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XV. *Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand*

¶ 15. It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to administer the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. *Of the Sacraments*

¶ 16. Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by the which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called Sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the *corrupt* following of the Apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same they have a wholesome effect or operation: but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as Saint Paul saith, 1 Cor. 11. 29.

XVII. *Of Baptism*

¶ **17.** Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.

XVIII. *Of the Lord's Supper*

¶ **18.** The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a Sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

XIX *of both Kinds*

¶ **19.** The Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the Lay People; for both the parts of the Lord's Sup-

per, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XX. *Of the one Oblation of Christ, finished upon the Cross*

¶ 20. The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXI. *Of the Marriage of Ministers*

¶ 21. The Ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXII. *Of the Rites and Ceremonies of Churches*

¶ 22. It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times, and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority,

ought to be rebuked openly (that others may fear to do the like), as one that offendeth against the common order of the Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular Church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

XXIII. *Of the Rulers of the United States of America*

¶ 23. The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors, and the Councils of State *as the Delegates of the People*, are the Rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States, and by the Constitutions of their respective States. And the said States are a sovereign and independent Nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction.[1]

XXIV. *Of Christian Men's Goods*

¶ 24. The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title, and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXV. *Of a Christian Man's Oath*

¶ 25. As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ

[1]As far as it respects civil affairs we believe it the duty of Christians, and especially of all Christian Ministers, to be subject to the supreme authority of the country where they may reside, and to use all laudable means to enjoin obedience to the powers that be; and therefore it is expected that all our Preachers and People, who may be under the British or any other Government, will behave themselves as peaceable and orderly subjects.

and James his Apostle; so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the Prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

DIVISION II

THE GENERAL RULES

The Nature, Design, and General Rules of our United Societies

¶ 26. In the latter end of the year 1739 eight or ten persons who appeared to be deeply convicted of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption, came to Mr. Wesley in London. They desired, as did two or three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together; which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on Thursday, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their number increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them; and they always concluded their meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

¶ 27. This was the rise of the UNITED SOCIETY, first in Europe, and then in America. Such a society is no other than "*a company of men having the form*

and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation."

¶ **28.** That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called Classes, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a Class, one of whom is styled THE LEADER. It is his duty,

§ 1. To see each person in his Class once a week at least; in order, (1.) To inquire how his soul prospers. (2.) To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort, as occasion may require. (3.) To receive what he is willing to give toward the relief of the Preachers, Church, and poor.

§ 2. To meet the Ministers and the Stewards of the Society once a week; in order, (1.) To inform the Minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reproved. (2.) To pay the Stewards what he has received of his Class in the week preceding.

¶ **29.** There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these Societies—"a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

¶ **30.** It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

First: By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced; such as,

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

Slaveholding; buying or selling slaves.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using of many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking of things on usury—that is, unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

¶ 31. It is expected of all who continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

Second: By doing good; by being in every kind

merciful after their power: as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison:

To their souls, by instructing, reproving, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with: trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine, that "we are not to do good unless *our hearts be free to it.*"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another; helping each other in business; and so much the more because the world will love its own and them *only*.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them *falsely*, for the Lord's sake.

¶ 32. It is expected of all who desire to continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

Third: By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are,

The Public Worship of God.

The Ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

Library of
HIGHLAND COLLEGE
Pasadena, Calif.

Family and private Prayer.
Searching the Scriptures.
Fasting or Abstinence.

¶ 33. These are the General Rules of our Societies; all which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But if then he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

DIVISION III

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER I

Pastoral Charges, Quarterly and Annual Conferences

ARTICLE I. *Pastoral Charges*

¶ 34. Members of the Church shall be divided into local Societies, one or more of which shall constitute a Pastoral Charge.

ARTICLE II. *Quarterly Conferences*

¶ 35. A Quarterly Conference shall be organized in each Pastoral Charge, and be composed of such

persons and have such powers as the General Conference may direct.

ARTICLE III. *Annual Conferences*

¶ 36. The Traveling Preachers shall be organized by the General Conference into Annual Conferences, the sessions of which they are required to attend.

CHAPTER II

The General Conference

ARTICLE I. *How Composed*

¶ 37. The General Conference shall be composed of Ministerial and Lay Delegates, to be chosen as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II. *Ministerial Delegates*

¶ 38, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one Ministerial Delegate. The General Conference shall not allow more than one Ministerial Delegate for every fourteen Members of an Annual Conference, nor less than one for every forty-five; but for a fraction of two thirds or more of the number fixed by the General Conference as the ratio of representation an Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional Delegate.

§ 2. The Ministerial Delegates shall be elected by ballot by the Members of the Annual Conference at its session immediately preceding the General Conference. Such Delegates shall be Elders, at least twenty-five years of age, and shall have been Members of an Annual Conference four successive years, and at the time of their election and at the time of the session of the General Conference shall be Mem-

bers of the Annual Conference which elected them. An Annual Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates.

§ 3. No Minister shall be counted twice in the same year in the basis for the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor vote in such election where he is not counted, nor vote in two Conferences in the same year on a constitutional question.

ARTICLE III. *Lay Delegates*

¶ 39, § 1. A Lay Electoral Conference shall be constituted quadrennially, or whenever duly called by the General Conference, within the bounds of each Annual Conference, for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference, and for the purpose of voting on constitutional changes. It shall be composed of lay members, one from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, chosen by the lay members of the Charge over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Pastoral Charge shall also elect in the same manner one Reserve Delegate. Members not less than twenty-one years of age, and holding membership in the Pastoral Charges electing them, are eligible to membership in the Lay Electoral Conference.

§ 2. The Lay Electoral Conference shall assemble at the seat of the Annual Conference on the first Friday of the session immediately preceding the General Conference, unless the General Conference shall provide otherwise.

§ 3. The Lay Electoral Conference shall organize by electing a President and Secretary, shall adopt its

own Rules of Order, and shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

§ 4. Each Lay Electoral Conference shall be entitled to elect as many Delegates to the General Conference as there are Ministerial Delegates from the Annual Conference. A Lay Electoral Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates. These elections shall be by ballot.

§ 5. Lay members twenty-five years of age, or over, holding membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference, and having been lay members of the Church five years next preceding, shall be eligible to election to the General Conference. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference.

ARTICLE IV. *Credentials*

¶ 40. The Secretaries of the several Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences shall furnish certificates of election to the Delegates severally, and send a certificate of such election to the Secretary of the preceding General Conference immediately after the adjournment of said Annual or Lay Electoral Conference.

ARTICLE V. *Sessions*

¶ 41. § 1. The General Conference shall meet at 10 o'clock on the morning of the first secular day in the month of May, in every fourth year from the date of the first Delegated General Conference—

namely, the year of our Lord 1812—and at such place in the United States of America as shall have been determined by the preceding General Conference, or by a Commission to be appointed quadrennially by the General Conference, and acting under its authority; which Commission shall have power also in case of emergency to change the place for the meeting of the General Conference, a majority of the General Superintendents concurring in such change.

§ 2. The General Superintendents, or a majority of them, by and with the advice of two thirds of all the Annual Conferences, shall have the power to call an extra session of the General Conference at any time, constituted in the usual way; such session to be held at such time and place as a majority of the General Superintendents, and also of the above Commission, shall designate.

§ 3. In case of a great emergency two thirds of the General Superintendents may call special sessions of the Annual Conferences, at such time and place as they may think wise, to determine the question of an extra session of the General Conference, or to elect Delegates thereto. They may also in such cases call extra sessions of the Lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference.

ARTICLE VI. *Presiding Officers*

¶ 42, § 1. The General Conference shall elect by ballot from among the Traveling Elders as many General Superintendents as it may deem necessary.

§ 2. The General Superintendents shall preside in the General Conference in such order as they may determine; but if no General Superintendent be pres-

ent, the General Conference shall elect one of its members to preside *pro tempore.*

§ 3. The presiding officer of the General Conference shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the General Conference; but questions of law shall be decided by the General Conference.

ARTICLE VII. *Organization*

¶ 43. When the time for opening the General Conference arrives the presiding officer shall take the chair, and direct the Secretary of the preceding General Conference, or in his absence one of his assistants, to call the roll of the Delegates-elect. Those who have been duly returned shall be recognized as members, their certificates of election being *prima facie* evidence of their right to membership; provided, however, that in case of a challenge of any person thus enrolled, such challenge being signed by at least six Delegates from the territory of as many different Annual Conferences, three such Delegates being Ministers and three Laymen, the person so challenged shall not participate in the proceedings of the General Conference, except to speak on his own case, until the question of his right shall have been decided. The General Conference shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

ARTICLE VIII. *Quorum*

¶ 44. When the General Conference is in session it shall require the presence of two thirds of the whole number of Delegates to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but a less number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day in order to secure a quorum, and at the final session

may approve the Journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn *sine die*.

ARTICLE IX. *Voting*

¶ 45. The Ministerial and Lay Delegates shall deliberate together as one body. They shall also vote together as one body with the following exception: A separate vote shall be taken on any question when requested by one third of either order of Delegates present and voting. In all cases of separate voting it shall require the concurrence of the two orders to adopt the proposed measure; except that for changes of the Constitution a vote of two thirds of the General Conference shall be sufficient, as provided in Article XI.

ARTICLE X. *Powers and Restrictions*

¶ 46. The General Conference shall have full power to make rules and regulations for the Church under the following limitations and restrictions, namely:

§ 1. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, nor change our Articles of Religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.

§ 2. The General Conference shall not organize nor authorize the organization of an Annual Conference with less than twenty-five members.

§ 3. The General Conference shall not change nor alter any part or rule of our government so as to do away Episcopacy, nor destroy the plan of our itinerant General Superintendency; but may elect a Missionary Bishop or Superintendent for any of our foreign Missions, limiting his Episcopal jurisdiction to the same respectively.

§ 4. The General Conference shall not revoke nor change the General Rules of our Church.

§ 5. The General Conference shall not deprive our Ministers of the right of trial by the Annual Conference, or by a select number thereof, nor of an appeal; nor shall it deprive our members of the right of trial by a committee of members of our Church, nor of an appeal.

§ 6. The General Conference shall not appropriate the produce of the Book Concern, nor of the Chartered Fund, to any purpose other than for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Superannuated[1] Preachers, their wives, widows, and children.

ARTICLE XI. *Amendments*

¶ 47. The concurrent recommendation of two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and of two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall suffice to authorize the next ensuing General Conference by a two-thirds vote to alter or amend any of the provisions of this Constitution excepting Article X, § 1; and also, whenever such alteration or amendment shall have been first recommended by a General Conference by a two-thirds vote, then so soon as two thirds of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and two thirds of all the members of the Lay Electoral Conferences present and voting, shall have concurred therein, such alteration or amendment shall take effect; and the result of the vote shall be announced by the General Superintendents.

[1] Elsewhere designated as "Retired" Ministers.

END OF THE CONSTITUTION

LEGISLATION

PART I

THE CHURCH

I. MEMBERSHIP
II. SPECIAL ADVICES
III. WORSHIP

CHAPTER I

MEMBERSHIP

I. Admission into the Church

¶ 48, § 1. In order that the doors of the Church may not be closed to any person seeking to be saved from his sins, and yet the Church be properly safeguarded against the hasty admission of any unworthy person; and in order that all those who have not had previous instruction in the doctrines of the Church may have the advantages of its means of grace, the ritual shall provide two forms for the reception of members.

§ 2. Preparatory Membership.[1] All persons expressing a desire to lead a godly life may be received into preparatory membership according to the form in the ritual, ¶ 513, in which preparatory membership they shall be given instruction by the Pastor, or properly appointed leaders, in the principles of the Christian life, as well as in the rules and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Such members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Church, but may not become members of the Quarterly Conference, nor take part in judicial proceedings except as witnesses.

§ 3. Full Membership. All baptized members under instruction giving satisfactory evidence of the correctness of their faith and of their knowledge of the rules and regulations of the Methodist Episcopal

[1] The probationary relation is required as a condition precedent to reception into Full Membership. The period of probation is no longer of definite length, but the probationary (preparatory) membership is imperative.—Ruling of the Bishops, approved 1912

Church shall upon recommendation of the Official Board or the Board of Stewards and the approval of the Pastor be received into full membership, according to the forms in the ritual, ¶¶ 514, 515.

§ 4. A member in good standing in any orthodox evangelical Church who desires to unite with us may be received into full membership upon giving satisfactory answers to the usual inquiries.

§ 5. An accurate record of membership, including all changes of relation in the same, shall be kept; each entry to bear its proper date, and the Pastor shall report all such changes in membership at each Quarterly Conference. We also advise every Pastor to keep, in connection with the Church records, a constituency roll, containing the names and addresses of all persons related to the membership of his Church and Sunday School, either by kinship or preference.

II. Baptized Children and the Church

¶ 49. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are members of the Kingdom of God, and therefore graciously entitled to Baptism; but, as infant Baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for Baptism that they will use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God; and they should be solemnly admonished of this obligation and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

¶ 50. We regard all children who have been baptized as placed in visible covenant relation to God and as preparatory members under the special care and supervision of the Church.

¶ 51. The Pastor shall make an accurate register of the names of all the baptized children within his pastoral care, giving the dates of their birth and baptism, the names of their parents, and the places of their residence. He shall also enroll their names as preparatory members; and should they remove, he shall issue Certificates of Registration to the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds they have moved.

¶ 52. The Pastor shall organize the baptized children of the Church when they shall have reached the age of ten years, or at an earlier age when it is deemed advisable, into classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters, and appoint suitable leaders, whose duty it shall be to meet them once a week and instruct them in the nature, design, and obligations of Baptism, and in the truths of religion necessary to make them "wise unto salvation"; to urge them to give regular attendance upon the means of grace; to advise, exhort, and encourage them to an immediate consecration of their hearts and lives to God, and to inquire into the state of their religious experience; provided, that unbaptized children shall not be excluded from such classes or Junior Epworth League Chapters.

¶ 53. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into membership in the Church, on recommendation of the Official Board or the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, with the approval of the Pastor, after publicly assenting before the Church to the Baptismal Covenant and to the usual questions on Doctrines and Discipline, as prescribed in the Ritual.

¶ 54. Whenever a baptized child shall be deprived

of Christian guardianship, by orphanage or otherwise, the Pastor shall ascertain and report the facts in the case to the Official Board or to the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; and such provision shall be made for the Christian training of the child as the circumstances of the case shall admit or require.

III. Transfer of Membership

¶ 55, § 1. An acceptable member of the Church desiring to remove his membership from one Pastoral Charge to another is entitled to be transferred as follows: The Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, the District Superintendent, shall send to the Pastor of the Charge to which the member is to be transferred a Certificate in the following form:

"This is to certify that A. B., who holds a notice of this letter, is an acceptable Member of the..... Methodist Episcopal Church in ....., and, having requested that his membership be transferred to the ..... Methodist Episcopal Church in ..... is affectionately commended to the fellowship of said Church. When the Church to which this Certificate of Transfer is issued acknowledges the receipt of the same and his enrollment, his membership in this Church shall cease."

§ 2. Notice of this transfer shall be given to the member in accordance with the following form:

"At your request I this day have sent a Certificate of Transfer of your membership to the ..... Methodist Episcopal Church in ..... When said Certificate is acknowledged and your name is recorded in the records of said Church, your membership in this Church will cease."

§ 3. The original Certificate shall be accompanied

by a blank for the acknowledgment of the same, in accordance with the following form:

"The Certificate of Transfer of the membership of A. B. from the ..... Methodist Episcopal Church in ..... to the ..... Methodist Episcopal Church in ..... is hereby acknowledged. ..... has been duly received as a Member of this Church and thereby ceases to be a Member of the Church which issued the Certificate.

....., Pastor."

§ 4 A complete record of each transfer shall be kept on the stub in the Certificate book in the following form:

Name of member requesting transfer.....
Charge to which the Certificate is issued.....
Date on which Certificate is issued.....
Date of acknowledgment of Certificate and actual transfer of membership.....
Name of Pastor or District Superintendent issuing Certificate.....
Name of Pastor or District Superintendent acknowledging Certificate.....

§ 5. When a Pastor shall have received a member on said Certificate, he shall notify the Pastor of the Church from which it was issued on the blank form which accompanies Certificate, as provided in § 3.

§ 6. Whenever a Pastor is appointed to another Charge he may complete the record of his pastorate by entering in the Church Record opposite the names of the members of his family who are Church members: *"Member of Pastor's family, transferred to....."*; and enter the names on the Record of his new Charge with the note: *"Member of Pastor's family, transferred from ....."*

¶ 56, § 1. A Certificate of Membership shall not be refused, if demanded by a member removing his residence to another charge, except for reasons that justify judicial proceedings against such member. A Certificate of Transfer shall not be given unless an actual change in the place of holding membership is intended.

§ 2. A Pastor may give a note of recommendation to any member who wishes to unite with any other Evangelical Denomination.

IV. Affiliated Members

¶ 57. When any of our young people, who are Church members, are absent from home attending school, they may, upon application, be enrolled as affiliated members in the Methodist Episcopal Church where the school is located, and by such membership shall be entitled to the proper privileges of such Church and to its pastoral oversight, and to engage in its active service, but they shall be counted and reported only in the membership of their home Churches.

V. Non-Resident Membership

¶ 58. Whenever the residence of a member who has removed cannot be ascertained by the Pastor or the Committee on Church Records for a period of at least one year, such member shall be recorded as "non-resident" and shall not be counted in the returns of Full Membership, but shall be reported in a separate column in the statistics. If the residence of such member cannot be ascertained for a period of three years he shall no longer be counted in the statistical returns, and the Pastor shall write after his name, "Removed without Certificate."

VI. Withdrawals

¶ 59, § 1. When any member in good standing proposes to withdraw from the Methodist Episcopal Church he shall communicate his purpose in writing to the Pastor of the Church. On receiving such notice of withdrawal, the Pastor shall enter the fact of withdrawal upon the Record of Church Membership; and such withdrawal cannot be retracted except by consent of the Pastor and the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. Membership in the Church can be terminated only by the withdrawal, expulsion, or death of a member. A member of the Church who has united with another denomination without a Note of Recommendation shall be recorded as "Withdrawn."

VII. Classes and Class Meetings

¶ 60. The design of the organization of Classes and the appointment of Leaders is:

§ 1. To establish a system of pastoral oversight that shall effectively reach every member of the Church.

§ 2. To establish and maintain such a meeting for social and religious worship, for instruction, encouragement, and admonition, as shall be a profitable means of grace to the Church.

§ 3. To aid, when desired, in carrying out the Financial Plan of the Church.

¶ 61, § 1. The primary object of distributing the members of the Church into Classes is to secure the subpastoral oversight made necessary by our itinerant economy.

§ 2. Let the Classes, wherever practicable, be composed of not more than twenty persons, and let the

Leader report at each Quarterly Conference the condition of his Class as follows:

1. Number of Members in the Class.
2. Number of Preparatory Members.
3. Average attendance.
4. Number habitually absent.
5. Number of Class Meetings held.
6. Number who contribute to the support of the Church.
7. Number of visits made.
8. Number of heads of families in the Class, and the number who observe family worship.
9. Number of Church papers taken by Class members.
10. Miscellaneous matters.

§ 3. Let each Leader be careful to inquire how every member of his Class prospers; not only how each person outwardly observes the Rules, but also how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

§ 4. Let the Leaders converse with their Pastors frequently and freely.

¶ 62. In the arrangement of Class Meetings two or more Classes may meet together and be conducted according to such plan as shall be agreed upon by the Leaders in concurrence with the Pastor.

¶ 63. Let care be observed that Class Meetings do not fall into formality through the use of a uniform method. Let speaking be voluntary or the exercises conversational, the Leader taking such measures as best may assist in making the services fresh, spiritual, and of permanent religious profit.

¶ 64, § 1. In order to render Class Meetings interesting and profitable, let the Pastor remove im-

proper Leaders and see that all the Leaders are of sound judgment and truly devoted to God.

§ 2. Let the Leaders be directed to such a course of reading and study as best shall qualify them for their work. Especially let such books be recommended as will tend to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures and make them familiar with those passages best adapted to spiritual instruction. Whenever practicable let the Pastors examine the Leaders in the studies recommended.[1]

CHAPTER II

SPECIAL ADVICES

I. Slavery

¶ 65. We declare that we are as much as ever convinced of the great evil of Slavery. We believe that the buying, selling, or holding of human beings as chattels is contrary to the laws of God and nature, and inconsistent with the Golden Rule, and with that Rule in our Discipline which requires all who desire to continue among us to "do no harm," and to "avoid evil of every kind." We therefore affectionately admonish all our Ministers and people to keep themselves pure from this great evil, and to seek its extirpation by all lawful and Christian means.

II. Dress

¶ 66. Let all our people be exhorted to conform to the spirit of the apostolic precept, not to adorn themselves "with gold, or pearls, or costly array" (1 Tim. 2. 9).

[1] For the Course of Study for Class Leaders, see Appendix, ¶ 603.

III. Marriage

¶ 67, § 1. We do not prohibit our people from marrying persons who are not of our Church, provided such persons have the form, and are seeking the power, of godliness; but we are determined to discourage their marrying persons who do not come up to this description. Many of our members have married unawakened persons. This has produced bad effects; they either have been hindered for life, or have turned back to perdition.

§ 2. To discourage such marriages, 1. Let every Minister publicly enforce the Apostle's caution, "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6. 14). 2. Let all be exhorted to take no step in so weighty a matter without advising with the more serious of their brethren.

§ 3. In general, a woman ought not to marry without the consent of her parents. Yet there may be exceptions. For if, 1. A woman believes it to be her duty to marry; if, 2. Her parents absolutely refuse to let her marry any Christian; then she may, nay, ought to marry without their consent. Yet even then a Methodist Minister ought not to be married to her.

IV. Divorce

¶ 68. No divorce, except for adultery, shall be regarded by the Church as lawful; and no Minister shall solemnize marriage in any case where there is a divorced wife or husband living; but this rule shall not be applied to the innocent party to a divorce for the cause of adultery, nor to divorced parties seeking to be reunited in marriage.[1]

[1] The provisions of this paragraph are not merely advisory, but obligatory, see ¶ 264, § 1.

V. Amusements

¶ 69. Improper amusements and excessive indulgence in innocent amusements are serious barriers to the beginning of the religious life and fruitful causes of spiritual decline. Some amusements in common use are positively demoralizing and furnish the first easy steps to the total loss of character. We therefore look with deep concern on the great increase of amusements and on the general prevalence of harmful amusements, and lift up a solemn note of warning and entreaty, particularly against theater-going, dancing, and such games of chance as are frequently associated with gambling; all of which have been found to be antagonistic to vital piety, promotive of worldliness, and especially pernicious to youth. We affectionately admonish all our people to make their amusements the subject of careful thought and frequent prayer, to study the subject of amusements in the light of their tendencies, and to be scrupulously careful in this matter to set no injurious example. We adjure them to remember that often the question for a Christian must be, not whether a certain course of action is positively immoral, but whether it will dull the spiritual life and be an unwise example. We direct all our Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to call attention to this subject with solemn urgency in our Annual and Quarterly Conferences and in all our pulpits; and our Editors, Sunday School Officers, Epworth League Officers, and Class Leaders, to aid in abating the evils we deplore. We deem it our bounden duty to summon the whole Church to apply a thoughtful and instructed conscience to the choice of amusements, and not to leave them to

see 280

accident, or taste, or passion; and we affectionately advise and beseech every member of the Church absolutely to avoid "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

VI. Temperance

¶ 70, § 1. Temperance, in its broader meaning, is distinctively a Christian virtue, enjoined in the Holy Scriptures. It requires the subordination of all the emotions, passions, and appetites to the control of reason and conscience. Dietetically, it means a wise use of suitable articles of food and drink, with entire abstinence from such as are known to be hurtful. Both science and human experience agree with the Holy Scriptures in condemning all alcoholic beverages as being neither useful nor safe. The business of manufacturing and of vending such liquors is also against the principles of morality, political economy, and the public welfare. We therefore regard voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants as the obligation of the citizen and the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil government. We heartily approve all lawful and Christian efforts to save society from the manifold and grievous evils resulting from intemperance, and earnestly advise our people to coöperate with all measures which may seem to them wisely adapted to secure that end. We refer to our General Rule on this subject (¶ 30), and affectionately urge its strict observance by all our members. Finally, we are fully persuaded that, under God, hope for the ultimate success of the Temperance Reform rests chiefly upon the combined and sanctified influence of the Family, the Church, and the State.

§ 2. We record our solemn judgment that the habitual use of tobacco is a practice out of harmony with the best Christian life. In the interest of a larger Christian influence and service we urge our members to abstain from the use of cigarettes and of tobacco in all other forms.

VII. Christian Stewardship

¶ 71, § 1. The following principles should be recognized by the individual Christian who would relate himself intelligently to property, income, wages and wealth:

(1) God is the owner of all things.

(2) God invites men to subdue the earth and possess it.

(3) Under grace, man is a steward to hold and administer his possessions as a sacred trust.

(4) God's ownership ought to be acknowledged.

(5) Biblical history records, and extra-biblical history recognizes the setting apart of the tenth of the income as that acknowledgment; there is indicated a divine sanction for the practice and the amount.

(6) God's ownership and man's stewardship are best evidenced by the systematic application of this portion of income to the advancement of the Kingdom, and by the faithful use of the balance of income not set aside.

§ 2. The following methods should be pursued by the individual Christian who would administer wisely his stewardship of material possessions:

(1) Actual or constructive separation of the proportion of income which complies with the foregoing principles.

(2) A written pledge in advance for the regular

work of the Church (local budget and benevolence budget).

(3) A weekly payment of the amounts subscribed; offered as an act of worship at a public service if this is possible; otherwise held until offering may be made.

(4) Payments from time to time, out of the portion set aside but not previously pledged, to special causes.

(5) Careful, intelligent, personal, and prayerful consideration of the uses to be made of the whole of income and wealth; this will require study of the local, national, and world-wide program of the Church, and of the full stewardship of life itself.

(6) Freewill offerings, thank-offerings, and gifts.

CHAPTER III

WORSHIP

I. Order of Public Worship

¶ 72, § 1. Let all services begin exactly at the time appointed, and let the people kneel in silent prayer on entering the sanctuary.

1. [VOLUNTARY, instrumental or vocal.] [1]

II. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

III. [THE APOSTLES' CREED, recited by all, standing.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended

[1] Parts inclosed in brackets may be used or omitted.

into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic[1] Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.]

IV. PRAYER, concluding with the LORD'S PRAYER, repeated audibly by all, both Minister and People kneeling.

V. [ANTHEM, or VOLUNTARY.]

VI. LESSON from the OLD TESTAMENT, which may be read responsively, the People standing.

VII. [The GLORIA PATRI:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.]

VIII. LESSON from the NEW TESTAMENT.

IX. NOTICES, followed by COLLECTION; during or after which an Offertory may be rendered.

X. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XI. The SERMON.

XII. PRAYER, the People kneeling.

XIII. SINGING from the METHODIST HYMNAL, the People standing.

XIV. DOXOLOGY and the APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION. (2 Cor. 13. 14.)

§ 2. At the service during which the Sacraments are administered any of the items of the preceding order may be omitted except singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

§ 3. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to take part in the public worship of God; first, by singing;

[1] The one universal Church of Christ.

second, by prayer, in the scriptural attitude of kneeling, and by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

II. The Spirit and Truth of Singing

¶ 73. To guard against formality in singing:

§ 1. Choose such hymns as are proper for the occasion, and do not sing too much at once; seldom more than four or five stanzas.

§ 2. Let the tune be suited to the sentiment, and do not suffer the people to sing too slowly.

§ 3. In every Congregation let due attention be given to the cultivation of sacred music.

§ 4. Should the Pastor desire it, let the Quarterly Conference appoint annually a Committee of three or more of which the Pastor shall be chairman, which, coöperating with him, shall regulate all matters relating to this part of divine worship. The action of said Committee shall be subject in every respect to the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 5. As singing is a part of divine worship in which all ought to unite, therefore exhort every person in the Congregation to sing.

PART II
THE CONFERENCES

I. GENERAL CONFERENCE
II. ANNUAL CONFERENCES
III. LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES
IV. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES
V. MISSION CONFERENCES
VI. DISTRICT CONFERENCES
VII. QUARTERLY CONFERENCES
VIII. OFFICIAL BOARD
IX. LEADERS AND STEWARDS' MEETING

[For JUDICIAL CONFERENCE, see ¶ 292]

CHAPTER I

GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Composition, Organization, Powers, and Restrictions of the General Conference are set forth in the CONSTITUTION of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, ¶¶ 37–47.

CHAPTER II

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. Number and Organization

¶ 74, § 1. There are now one hundred and thirty-three Annual Conferences, and these shall become severally bodies corporate, wherever practicable, under the authority of the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds they are located.

§ 2. For the purpose of representation on the Book Committee, the Administrative Boards, and Committees in the General Conference the Annual Conferences shall be grouped into as many General Conference Districts as the General Conference from time to time shall determine. For the present grouping, see Appendix, ¶ 555.

¶ 75. All Members of an Annual Conference and those on Trial therein shall attend its sessions.

¶ 76. The Bishops shall appoint the times for holding the Annual Conferences; but they shall allow each Annual Conference to sit one week at least.

¶ 77. Each Annual Conference shall appoint the place of its own session; but should it become necessary, from any unforeseen cause, to change the place

of its session after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Pastor or Pastors in the place where the Conference was appointed to be held, and the District Superintendent, shall have power to make such change. But this authority shall not be exercised without first consulting the other District Superintendents of the Conference so far as practicable.

¶ **78.** A Bishop shall preside in the Annual Conference. In case no Bishop is present, a member of the Conference, appointed by the Bishop, shall preside. But if no appointment be made, or if the person appointed shall not attend, the Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a President from among the Elders.

¶ **79.** A record of the proceedings of each Annual Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and shall be signed by the President and Secretary; and a copy of said record shall be sent to the General Conference for examination. Journals not properly attested cannot be approved by the General Conference.[1]

II. Order of Business

¶ **80.** The business of the Annual Conference is to inquire:

§ 1. Is this Annual Conference Incorporated according to the requirement of the Discipline?

§ 2. Who have been Received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?

§ 3. Who have been Readmitted?

NOTE.—Enter date of Location and the Conference which granted it.

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[1] See Appendix, ¶ 556.

§ 4. Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches?

§ 5. Who have been Received on Trial?

(*a*) In studies of First Year.

(*b*) In studies of Third Year (under Seminary Rule.) ¶ 176, § 2.

§ 6. Who have been Continued on Trial?

(*a*) In studies of First Year.

(*b*) In studies of Second Year.

(*c*) In studies of Third Year.

(*d*) In studies of Fourth Year.

§ 7. Who have been Discontinued?

§ 8. Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?

(*a*) Elected and ordained Deacons this year.

(*b*) Elected and ordained Deacons previously.

(*c*) Elected and ordained Deacons under Seminary Rule. ¶ 176, § 2.

§ 9. What Members are in studies of Third Year?

(*a*) Admitted into Full Membership this year.

(*b*) Admitted into Full Membership previously.

§ 10. What Members are in studies of Fourth Year?

§ 11. What Members have completed the Conference Course of Study?

(*a*) Elected and ordained Elders this year.

(*b*) Elected and ordained Elders previously.

(*c*) Elected and ordained Elders under the Seminary Rule. ¶ 179, § 3.

§ 12. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?

(*a*) As Local Preachers. ¶ 176, § 1.

(*b*) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 176, § 4.

§ 13. What others have been elected and ordained Elders?

(*a*) As Local Deacons. ¶ 179, § 1.

(*b*) Under Missionary Rule. ¶ 179, § 4.

§ 14. Was the character of each Preacher examined?

§ 15. Who have been Transferred, and to what Conferences?

§ 16. Who have Died?

§ 17. Who have been Located at their own request?

§ 18. Who have been Located?

§ 19. Who have Withdrawn?

§ 20. Who have been permitted to Withdraw under Charges or Complaints?

§ 21. Who have been Expelled?

§ 22. What other Personal Notation should be made?

NOTE.—Enter the names of (1) Those whose Orders have been recognized without admission to the Annual Conference. (2) Those whose Credentials have been restored. (3) Those formerly expelled, but now restored by the action of a Judicial Conference or of the General Conference. Indicate class by use of numeral (1), (2), or (3), as above.

§ 23. Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, and for what number of years consecutively has each held this relation?

§ 24. Who are the Retired Ministers?

§ 25. Who are the Triers of Appeals?

§ 26. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension?

§ 27. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Foreign Missions?

§ 28. What is the Statistical Report?

§ 29. What is the Conference Treasurer's Report?

§ 30. (a) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?

(b) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the Annual Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer.

§ 31. What are the claims on the Conference Funds?

For annuity distribution ..... years multiplied by the Disciplinary rate of $..... per year, $.....

For necessitous distribution, - - $.....

Total, - - - - - - - - $.....

§ 32. What has been received on these claims, and how has it been applied?

From the Book Concern - - - $.....

From the Chartered Fund - - $.....

From Board of Conference Claimants, - $.....

From Annual Conference investments, $.....

From Pastoral Charges, - - $.....

Total, - - - - - - - - $.....

§ 33. What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the Support of Conference Claimants? ¶ 336.

§ 34. What amount has been paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Conference Claimants for Connectional Relief? - - - - - - $.....

§ 35. Where are the Preachers stationed?

§ 36. Where shall the next Conference be held?

III. Powers and Duties

¶ 81, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall elect a Committee on Conference Relations. The Conference shall arrange, so far as practicable, to constitute the committee in classes to serve three years each.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the committee to examine all applicants for reception on trial as to their age, health, education, relation in life, and it shall secure in its permanent record from each applicant

his written answers to the following questions; and in the form herein prescribed: (1) Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Ministry? Answer: No. (2) Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco? Answer: Yes.

§ 3. All candidates for admission to Full Membership shall appear before this committee and be examined as in the case of reception on trial.

§ 4. No member of the Conference shall have his relation changed until he has had opportunity to have his case presented to this committee, in person or by a representative.

§ 5. Any case involving ordination or recognition of orders may be referred to this committee by the Annual Conference.

§ 6. This committee shall make a recommendation to the Conference in each case, unless the application be withdrawn.

§ 7. In Conferences so large as to make it necessary, a Committee on Ministerial Qualifications may be elected to which may be referred sections two and three.

¶ 82. An Annual Conference has power to hear complaints against its members, and may try, reprove, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel or acquit any against whom charges may have been preferred. ¶¶ 252-269.

¶ 83. The Election and, so far as it is practicable, the Ordination of Elders and Deacons shall be at the Annual Conference. ¶¶ 174-181.

¶ 84. Each Annual Conference shall appoint annually for each District, a District Board of Church Location and Erection, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 448.

¶ 85. Each Annual Conference shall carefully meet the obligations laid upon it in connection with all our benevolent causes.

¶ 86. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, whose powers and duties are defined in ¶ 392, § 1.

¶ 87. In each Annual Conference, the Bishop presiding shall inquire of each Pastor if he has carried out the Disciplinary plan for the support of the ministry and the benevolent causes; and of each District Superintendent, if he has required the pro rata distribution of the moneys received for Ministerial Support and has urged in the Quarterly Conferences the collection in full for all the benevolent causes.

IV. Statistician and Treasurer

¶ 88. That the Statistics may be accurately reported and the Benevolent Collections duly accounted for, let the following rules be observed:

§ 1. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Statistician and a Conference Treasurer, whose names and addresses shall be printed at the head of its Statistical Tables in the General Minutes and also in the Methodist Year Book.

§ 2. On the first day of the Conference session each Pastor shall present his Statistical and Financial Reports, correctly and plainly written, all collections and other moneys being reported in dollars only, without fractions thereof.

§ 3. In connection with this report of the amount collected for each benevolent cause, the Pastor shall deliver to the Conference Treasurer either the money thus collected or a satisfactory voucher for the same; and the credit given to his Pastoral Charge shall

correspond exactly with the money and vouchers thus delivered.

§ 4. At the opening of the second day's session the Bishop presiding shall call upon the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer respectively to read the names of all Pastoral Charges from which reports have not been received, or from which incorrect or defective reports have been received. This call shall be made at the beginning of each day's session until correct reports have been received from every Pastoral Charge.

§ 5. In case any Pastoral Charge fail to make a report the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer shall insert the report for the preceding year and shall indicate this fact by placing the figures in brackets.

§ 6. When the name of a Pastoral Charge has been changed the Statistician and Conference Treasurer shall print the former name in parenthesis under the present name.

§ 7. The Conference Treasurer shall receive and account for such other moneys, additional to the regular benevolent collections, as the Conference may direct; and an Auditing Committee, appointed by the Conference, shall audit his accounts.

§ 8. When the provisions of §§ 2 and 3 shall have been complied with the Conference Treasurer shall return the "Conference Treasurer's Report" to the Pastor, with the word "Credited" either written or stamped over the Treasurer's signature, as a voucher to be delivered by the Pastor to the Quarterly Conference of the contributing Charge.

¶ 89, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall provide, (1) Statistical Blanks for the Pastor and Statistician;

(2) Treasurer's Blanks for the Pastor and Conference Treasurer, together with suitable envelopes; (3) Blanks for the Accounts of the Statistician and the Conference Treasurer.

§ 2. Application for blanks for distribution among the Pastors and for the Statistician's and Conference Treasurer's Accounts should be made to The Methodist Book Concern, New York, by the Secretaries of the Annual Conferences. Orders for the *Spring Conferences* should be made by October first, and will be filled by December first. Orders for the *Fall Conferences* should be made by March first and will be filled by June first. Applications should state the name of the Annual Conference, the number of Districts, the number of Pastoral Charges, and how many Districts have more than sixty Pastoral Charges.

¶ 90, § 1. The Statistical Report of the Pastor to the Annual Conference shall be presented according to the form prescribed in ¶ 91.

§ 2. The several Annual Conferences shall publish both the Statistical Report (except the "Sunday School Statistics," which are prepared for the use of the Board of Sunday Schools) and the Conference Treasurer's Report.

§ 3. The Statisticians and Treasurers of the Conferences and Missions shall forward their Reports to the Publishing Agent at New York as soon after adjournment as practicable. The Statisticians also shall send the "Sunday School Statistics" to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, Chicago.

§ 4. The amount raised for "Ministerial Support" shall include the several sums raised for the support of the Pastor, the support of Conference Claimants,

the support of the District Superintendent, and the support of the Bishops; also house rent paid for the Pastor; or in case the Pastor occupies a parsonage, a sum equal to a fair rental value of the parsonage. Missionary appropriations should not be included. If desired, separate columns may be used for House Rent and for Traveling Expenses.

§ 5. In making his statistical report to the Annual Conference the Pastor shall indicate the amount paid to the District Superintendent from his Charge, and shall enclose the cash, or a proper voucher.

§ 6. Non-resident Members shall not be reckoned in making apportionments. ¶ 58.

§ 7. "Baptized Children" shall not be counted as "Preparatory Members" in making reports of membership.

¶ 91. The Statistical Report shall be in the following form:

§ 1. STATISTICAL REPORT

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

Support of Pastor

Total Claim, including House Rent.
Total Paid, including House Rent.
Rental Value of Parsonage.

Support of District Superintendent

Claim.
Paid.[1]

Support of Bishops

Claim.
Paid.[1]

[1]Also in Conference Treasurer's Report. ¶92.

Support of Conference Claimants

Claim.
Paid.[1]
Total Paid for Ministerial Support.
Total Deficiency.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Local Preachers

Number on Charge.

Baptisms

Adults Baptized.
Children Baptized.
Baptized Children who are under instruction for Membership.

Preparatory Members

Received during the Year.
Now on Roll.

Full Members

Full Members on Roll.
Non-resident Members. ¶ 58.
Deaths during Year.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Sunday Schools.
Officers and Teachers.
Total Enrollment in all Departments, including Cradle Roll, Home Department, Officers and Teachers.

EPWORTH LEAGUE

Senior Members.
Junior Members.

[1]Also in Conference Treasurer's Report. ¶ 92.

CHURCH PROPERTY

Church Buildings.
Estimated Value—Land and Buildings.
Parsonages.
Estimated Value—Land and Buildings.
Paid for Building and Improvements on Churches and Parsonages.
Paid on Old Indebtedness on Churches and Parsonages.
Present Indebtedness on Churches and Parsonages.
Current Expenses. ¶ 112, § 2.

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXPENSES

Apportioned for the Quadrennium.
Paid this Year.[1]
Balance Due for the Quadrennium.

§ 2. SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS

See ¶ 90, §§ 2, 3

Sunday Schools.
Officers and Teachers.
Total Enrollment in all Departments, including Cradle Roll, Home Department, Officers, Teachers, and Scholars.
Scholars of all Grades.
Average Attendance of all Grades.
Members in the Home Department.
Children on the Cradle Roll.
Officers and Teachers who are Church Members or Preparatory Members.
Scholars, including the Home Department, who are Church Members or Preparatory Members.

[1] Also in Conference Treasurer's Report, ¶ 92.

Conversions and Accessions to the Church from the Membership of the Sunday Schools.
Collections for the Board of Sunday Schools.
Church.
Sunday Schools.
10% of the Sunday School Missionary Offering.
Sunday School Expenses: Lesson Leaves, Books, etc.

¶ 92. Conference Treasurer's Report.

DISCIPLINARY BENEVOLENCES

(As ordered by the General Conference)

Board of Foreign Missions

Church.
Sunday Schools.
Special Gifts.

Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

Church.
Sunday Schools.
Special Gifts.

Freedmen's Aid Society.

Board of Sunday Schools

Church.
Sunday Schools (Including 10% of S. S. Missionary Offering.)

Board of Education

Public Educational Collection. (80% to local interests. 20% to Board of Education.)
Children's Day Fund.

American Bible Society.
Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals.
General Deaconess Board.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
Woman's Home Missionary Society.
  Cash.
  Supplies.
City Missionary or Church Extension Society.
    Total Disciplinary Benevolences.

BENEVOLENCES

(As ordered by the Annual Conference)

Educational Endowments, Buildings, Special Gifts for use within the Conference.
Hospital.
.....
.....
.....
    Total Benevolences ordered by the Annual Conference.

OTHER CASH ITEMS

Annual Conference Investments for Conference Claimants.
Central Office Expenses of Epworth League.
Support of District Superintendent.[1]
Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund).[1]
Support of Conference Claimants.[1]
General Conference Expenses.[1]
Grand Total (including Disciplinary and Annual Conference Benevolences and other Cash Items).

[1]Also in Statistical Report, ¶ 91

CHAPTER III

LAY ELECTORAL CONFERENCES

The Composition, Organization, and Powers of the Lay Electoral Conference are set forth in the Constitution of the Church, Division III, Chapter II, Articles III and IV, ¶¶ 39, 40.

I. Election of Delegates

¶ 93, § 1. The first or third Quarterly Conference of each Charge for the Conference year within which a Lay Electoral Conference is to be convened shall appoint one Judge of Election and two Tellers, who shall constitute the Election Board of the Charge; provided the said Charge be composed of but one Church. The Election Board shall fix the time and place for the holding of an election for one Lay Delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference and one Reserve Lay Delegate in accordance with the provisions of Division III, Article III, of the Constitution of the Church.

§ 2. The Election Board shall see that suitable public notice of the time and place of the election shall be given, public announcement of the same being made at two regular preaching services at least, on different days, within the six weeks immediately preceding the election. It shall take charge of the election, receive and count the ballots, and certify the whole number of votes cast and for whom cast to the fourth Quarterly Conference, which shall declare the result and give to the person receiving the highest number of votes for each place a certificate of elec-

tion, which shall be signed by the District Superintendent and the Secretary of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 3. In every Pastoral Charge which consists of more than one Church or Society the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Judge of Election and two Tellers for each of such Churches or Societies, and each of such Boards shall proceed as is provided for in the case of the Election Board of a single Church. The Quarterly Conference shall proceed in the same manner as is provided for Pastoral Charges having but one Church or Society.

§ 4. When duly convened for the election, in case of the absence of one or more members of the Election Board the lay members assembled shall have power to fill vacancies.

§ 5. The Secretary of the fourth Quarterly Conference shall certify the result of the ballot without delay to the Secretary of the preceding Lay Electoral Conference, or to any other person designated by said Conference to prepare the roll of the ensuing Lay Electoral Conference. Said certificate shall contain the names of the Lay Delegate and of the Reserve Lay Delegate elected, the post office of each and the name of the Pastoral Charge.

II. Laymen's Associations

¶ 94. There may be assembled at the seat of the Annual Conference a Laymen's Association organized within the bounds of the Conference, composed of Delegates selected from the Charges in such manner as the Laymen's Association may determine. The purpose of such Association shall be to advance the

local and Conference interests of the Church and to enlist all laymen in the general activities of the denomination.

CHAPTER IV

CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 95, § 1. When in any of our foreign Mission fields there is more than one Annual Conference or Mission, if ordered by the General Conference, it shall be lawful to organize a Central Conference, to be composed either of all the Members of those Annual Conferences or Missions, or of Delegates from the same, elected according to such ratio as may be agreed upon between the constituent parties, who may also provide for the admission of Laymen to such Conference, the number of Lay Delegates not to exceed that of the Clerical Delegates.

§ 2. The first meeting of the Central Conference shall be called by the Bishop in charge, at such time and place as he may select, to which all the Members of the Conferences and Missions concerned shall be invited, and at which a ratio of representation shall be fixed by the Conference. The time and place of future meetings shall be determined by the Central Mission Conference; provided, that it shall meet at least once in four years.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop, if present, shall preside over a Central Mission Conference; but in his absence the Conference shall elect a President from among its own Members. Missionary Bishops have equal rights and privileges with General Superintendents in the sessions of the

Central Mission Conferences with which they are connected.

§ 4. A Central Conference may take under its supervision the educational, publishing, and other connectional interests which may have been committed to it by the Annual Conferences and Missions; but never in contravention of the Book of Discipline, or the orders of the General Conference; and it shall have no authority to involve the Board of Foreign Missions in any financial responsibility, nor to hold or control the property of the Board without the official permission of said Board.

§ 5. In the Central Conference the right shall be reserved to vote by Conferences or Missions whenever the Delegations from one third of the several Conferences or Missions represented shall so demand. In such cases the concurrent vote of the Delegations from two thirds of all the Conferences and Missions present and voting shall be necessary to complete an action.

§ 6. A Central Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, proposals for changes first having been submitted to the Annual Conferences concerned as prescribed in ¶¶ 495-497, provided, however, that the number of Annual Conferences which may be organized within the bounds of a Central Conference shall first have been determined by the General Conference; and provided, further, that no Conference shall be organized with less than twenty-five Members.

§ 7. When a Central Conference has been duly organized it shall not be discontinued except by order or consent of the General Conference.

§ 8. The Journal of the proceedings of a Central

Mission Conference, duly signed by the President and Secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference.

§ 9. The Central Conference of Southern Asia, and between sessions the executive board of the Central Conference, is authorized to fix the residences of the Missionary Bishops for Southern Asia, and to assign the Missionary Bishops to such residences.

CHAPTER V

MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 96, § 1. Any Mission established under the provisions of the Discipline may be constituted a Mission Conference by the General Conference.

§ 2. A Mission Conference is authorized to exercise the powers of an Annual Conference subject to the approval of the presiding Bishop; and its Members shall share *pro rata* in the proceeds of the Book Concern with Members of the Annual Conferences, but they shall not elect delegates to the General Conference nor vote on Constitutional changes.

§ 3. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission Conference may appoint a Superintendent, who may also be a District Superintendent where there are two or more Districts. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the Mission Conference to take the general supervision of the Conference, and yet not so as to interfere with the duties of the District Superintendents; and to represent the state of the work and its needs to the Bishop having charge, and to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Missionary Board immediately concerned.

§ 4. If there is no Bishop present at an Annual

Session of a Mission Conference, the Superintendent shall preside; but if there is no Superintendent present, the presidency shall be determined as in an Annual Conference. ¶ 78.

§ 5. Each Mission Conference or Mission at its Annual Session shall appoint a Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be, with the concurrence of the President of the Conference, to make an estimate of the amount necessary for the support of each Pastoral Charge, either in full or supplementary to the amount raised by the Charge. Such estimates shall be subject to modification by the managers of the Missionary Board immediately concerned, and in the aggregate shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the Board.

§ 6. A Charge within a Mission Conference may receive aid from the Missionary Board without having been designated in the estimates made by the Conference at its Annual Meeting.

CHAPTER VI

DISTRICT CONFERENCES

I. Organization and Duties

¶ 97. The District Conference shall be composed of the traveling ministers, the local preachers, the Exhorters, within the District, and the District Stewards, the District Presidents of the Epworth League, of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society together with

one Sunday School Superintendent, one President of an Epworth League Chapter, one President of a Ladies' Aid Society, one Class Leader, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, one President of an auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society from each Pastoral Charge in the District; also any lay members of our Church sent to any of our Foreign Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who are Members of a Quarterly Conference within the District. But if there shall be in any Charge more than one Sunday School Superintendent, Class Leader, President of the Epworth League, President of the Ladies' Aid Society, President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, or President of the auxiliary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, then the Quarterly Conference shall designate one of each for this service.

¶ **98.** The District Conference shall meet once or twice each year as it may determine. The District Superintendent shall designate the time and place for the first meeting after the adoption of this plan by the District; but the District Conference shall at each meeting determine the place for its next meeting, the time to be fixed by the District Superintendent.

¶ **99.** If a Bishop be present at the District Conference, he shall preside. In the absence of a Bishop the District Superintendent shall preside. If neither be present, the District Conference shall choose its own President by ballot, without debate, from among the Traveling Elders.

¶ **100.** A record of the proceedings of each District

Conference shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, and a copy of said record shall be sent to the ensuing Annual Conference.

¶ 101. The regular business of the District Conference shall be:

§ 1. To take the general oversight of all the temporal and spiritual affairs of the District, subject to the provisions of the Discipline.

§ 2. To take supervision of all the Local Preachers and Exhorters in the District, as provided in ¶¶ 219-228, and to arrange a plan of appointments for each until the next District Conference.

§ 3. To inquire if the support of the Ministry and all the collections for the benevolent institutions of the Church, as recognized by the Discipline, have received proper attention in all the Pastoral Charges, and, if necessary, to adopt suitable measures for promoting them.

§ 4. To inquire into the condition of the Sunday Schools in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 5. To inquire into the condition of the Epworth League Chapters in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 6. To inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies in the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 7. To inquire into the condition of the auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the District, and to adopt suitable measures for insuring their success.

§ 8. To inquire respecting opportunities for Missionary and Church Extension enterprises within the

District, and to provide for any neglected portion of its territory by the establishment of Mission Sunday Schools or by appointments for Public Worship.

§ 9. To provide appropriate religious and literary exercises during the session.

II. Order of Business

¶ 102. The order of business for the District Conference shall be:

§ 1. To inquire what members of the District Conference are present.

§ 2. To appoint Committees on

1. Examination of candidates for License to Preach.
2. Examination of Local Preachers in each of the four years of the Course of Study.
3. Examination of candidates for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference.
4. Examination of candidates for Orders.
5. Home Mission work.
6. Appointments of Local Preachers and Exhorters.
7. Program of religious and literary exercises for the next meeting.
8. Miscellaneous matters.

§ 3. To receive Reports:

1. From the District Superintendent, as to the condition of the work under his Charge, and concerning his own work as District Superintendent.
2. From each Pastor, as to the religious condition of his Charge, his pastoral labors, the benevolent collections and the circulation of our Church periodicals and books.

3. From each Local Preacher, according to the form prescribed in ¶ 223.
4. From each Exhorter, including a statement of the Prayer Meetings he has held, and other work done, especially in destitute places and among the sick and the poor. ¶ 228.
5. From each District Steward, as to the temporal affairs of the Charge he represents.
6. From each Sunday School Superintendent, as to the condition of the Sunday Schools of the Charge he represents.
7. From each President of an Epworth League Chapter, as to the condition of the Chapters of the Charge he represents.
8. From each President of a Ladies' Aid Society, as to the condition of the Societies of the Charge she represents.
9. From each Class Leader, as to the condition of the Classes of the Charge he represents.
10. From the President of each Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, as to the condition of the Auxiliary she represents.
11. From each Committee.

§ 4. To inquire concerning Local Preachers:

1. Are there any Charges or formulated Complaints?
2. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
3. Who shall be Licensed to Preach?
4. Who shall be recommended for Ordination?

5. Who shall be recommended for Recognition of Orders?
6. Who shall be recommended for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference?
7. What work is assigned to each Local Preacher?

§ 5. To inquire concerning Exhorters:
1. Who shall have their Licenses renewed?
2. What work is assigned to each Exhorter?

§ 6. To fix the seat of the next District Conference.

§ 7. To transact other appropriate business.

§ 8. The order of business may be varied, and the business interspersed with such literary and religious exercises as the District Conference may direct.

III. Discontinuance

¶ 103. The provisions for District Conferences shall be of force and binding only in those Districts in which the Quarterly Conferences of a majority of the Pastoral Charges shall have approved the same by asking the District Superintendent to convene a District Conference, as provided in ¶ 98. A District Conference may be discontinued by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular session, notice thereof having been given at a previous session, with the concurrence of a majority of the Quarterly Conferences in the District.

CHAPTER VII

QUARTERLY CONFERENCES

I. Organization and Duties

¶ 104. The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Class Leaders, Trustees, first Superintendents of Sunday Schools, Presidents of Epworth League Chapters, Superintendents of Junior Leagues, Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presidents of Auxiliaries of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, and Deaconesses employed within the Charge; provided, that said Class Leaders, Trustees, Superintendents, Presidents, and Deaconesses are members of our Church in the Charge, and are approved by the Quarterly Conference for membership therein; also any lay member of the Church sent to any of our Missions by the Board of Foreign Missions, or by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, who is assigned to said Quarterly Conference and regularly appointed to definite work by the Bishop in charge.[1]

¶ 105, § 1. The District Superintendent shall preside in the Quarterly Conference; or, he may appoint a Traveling Elder to preside. In the absence of the District Superintendent, and of the Traveling Elder so appointed, the Pastor shall preside.

§ 2. The Recording Steward shall be the Secretary of the Quarterly Conference and shall take minutes

[1] For additional members of the Quarterly Conference in Charges under the supervision of a City Society, see ¶ 441, § 2.

of the proceedings thereof. He shall also be the Custodian of the records of the Quarterly Conference. In his absence a Secretary shall be elected from the members of the Quarterly Conference present, and he shall forward the records to the Recording Steward.

¶ 106. In those Districts in which District Conferences shall be held the powers given to the District Conferences shall not be exercised by the Quarterly Conferences. In all other cases the powers of the Quarterly Conferences shall remain as hereinafter provided.

¶ 107. The regular business of the Quarterly Conference shall be:

§ 1. To hear formulated complaints, and to receive and try charges as directed in ¶¶ 271-278.

§ 2. To take cognizance of all Local Preachers and Exhorters in the Circuit or Station, as provided in ¶¶ 219-228.

§ 3. To receive the annual report of the Trustees; to elect Trustees where the laws of the State permit; and, at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Trustees who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge, but who were elected otherwise than by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 4. To elect Stewards for the Charge, and to elect one of these as District Steward, one as reserve District Steward, one as Communion Steward, and one as Recording Steward.

§ 5. To have oversight of all the Sunday Schools within the bounds of the Pastoral Charge, and to inquire into the condition of each; to confirm or reject Sunday School Superintendents elected by

the Sunday School Board; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 6. To have general oversight of the Epworth League Chapters and other organizations of young people; to confirm or reject Presidents of the Epworth League elected by the Chapters, and Junior League Superintendents nominated by the Pastor; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Epworth League Presidents and Junior League Superintendents who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge; and to remove any Epworth League President or Junior League Superintendent who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 7. To have general oversight of Ladies' Aid Societies and other organizations of similar designation and purpose; to confirm or reject Presidents elected by these Societies; at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents who are members of the Church within the Charge; and to remove any President who may prove unworthy or inefficient.

§ 8. To have general oversight of the Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and of the Woman's Home Missionary Society; and at its discretion, to approve for membership in the Quarterly Conference Presidents of Auxiliaries who are members of the Church within the Pastoral Charge.

§ 9. To meet carefully all the obligations laid by the Discipline upon the Quarterly Conference in ref-

erence to the support of the Ministry and of the benevolent causes.

§ 10. To appoint at the fourth Quarterly Conference Committees for the ensuing Conference year on (1) Apportioned Benevolences (¶ 111). (2) Foreign Missions. (3) Home Missions and Church Extension. (4) Sunday Schools. (5) Tracts. (6) Temperance. (7) Education. (8) Freedmen's Aid. (9) Hospitals. (10) Church Records. (11) Auditing Accounts. (12) Parsonage and Furniture. (13) Church Music. (14) Estimating Ministerial Support. (15) Examination of Local Preachers.

II. Order of Business

¶ 108. The Order of Business in the Quarterly Conference, after the Roll of Members has been called, shall be to inquire as follows:

NOTE.—Questions, or items under questions, marked thus [-1-] are to be considered at the first Quarterly Conference; those marked [-4-] at the fourth Quarterly Conference; all other questions and items at each Quarterly Conference.

§ 1. [-4-] Who are the Trustees of Church and Parsonage property? ¶¶ 345-348.

§ 2. What Trustees are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference? ¶ 107, § 3.

§ 3. [-4-] Who shall be the Stewards for the ensuing Conference year? ¶¶ 107, § 4; 314-316.

§ 4. [-4-] Who shall be: *a.* Recording Steward? ¶ 305. *b.* District Steward? *c.* Reserve District Steward? *d.* Communion Steward?

§ 5. Is any change desired in the Board of Stewards? ¶ 107, § 4.

§ 6. What Class Leaders are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference? ¶ 104.

§ 7. Who are confirmed—

1. As Sunday School Superintendents? ¶ 107, § 5.
2. As Presidents of Epworth Leagues? ¶ 107, § 6.
3. As Superintendents of Junior Leagues? ¶ 107, § 6.
4. As Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies? ¶ 107, § 7.

§ 8. Who are approved as members of the Quarterly Conference?

1. As Sunday School Superintendents. ¶ 107, § 5.
2. As Presidents of Epworth Leagues. ¶ 107, § 6.
3. As Superintendents of Junior Leagues. ¶ 107, § 6.
4. As Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies. ¶ 107, § 7.
5. As Presidents of the Auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. ¶ 107, § 8.
6. As Presidents of the Auxiliaries of the Woman's Home Missionary Society. ¶ 107, § 8.
7. As Deaconesses employed within the Charge. ¶ 104.

§ 9. Are there any formulated complaints? ¶¶ 270-278.

§ 10. [-4-] Who is appointed Trier of Appeals? ¶ 292, § 1.

§ 11. [-1-] What is the complete record for membership during the last Conference year?

1. Members on the Roll and reported to last Conference.
2. Members Received after Recommendation.
3. Members Received by Certificate.
4. Members Received from Other Denominations.
5. Whole number received during year.
6. Total.
7. Members Dismissed by Certificate.
8. Members Deceased.
9. Members Removed without Letter.
10. Members Withdrawn.
11. Members Expelled.
12. Total to be deducted.
13. Net Membership on Roll.
14. Non-resident Members.
15. Preparatory Members enrolled during the year.
16. Preparatory Members now on the Roll.
17. Baptized children as Members under Instruction.
18. Have acknowledgments been received from all Charges to which Certificates have been issued? ¶ 55, § 3.
19. Have all Certificates received been acknowledged to the Charges which issued them? ¶ 55, § 5.
20. Have Charges to which members have removed without Letter been notified?
21. Have all known to have moved into this Charge with or without Letter been visited?
22. Have Certificates of Registration been issued in the case of baptized children who have removed to another Pastoral Charge? ¶ 51.

§ 12. Are there any Reports?

1. From Pastor. ¶ 183, § 2.
2. From Local Preachers. ¶ 223.
3. From Exhorters. ¶ 228.
4. From Sunday School Superintendents, ¶ 478, § 5. (In the absence of a full report from the Sunday School Superintendent, the District Superintendent shall ask the questions which are specified for this report in ¶ 478, § 5.)
5. From Presidents of Epworth League Chapters. ¶ 489.
6. From Superintendents of Junior Leagues.
7. [-4-] From Presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies. ¶ 378, § 2.
8. From Deaconesses employed within the Charge. ¶ 236, § 6.
9. From Class Leaders. ¶ 61, § 2.
10. [-4-] From Trustees. ¶ 350.
11. [-4-] From the Official Board. ¶ 112, § 1. (Record book for approval.)
12. From Committees. ¶ 107, § 10. (*a*) on Church Records; (*b*) on Auditing; (*c*) Other Committees.

§ 13. [-1-] What is the complete Record of Ministerial Support for the last Conference year?

1. Paid to Pastor including House Rent.
2. Paid to Assistant including House Rent.
3. Paid to Conference Claimants.
4. Paid to District Superintendent.
5. Paid to Episcopal Fund.

§ 14. What is the Financial Plan adopted by the Charge? ¶¶ 112, 319-322, 410.

§ 15. Have the plans for inculcating the principles of Christian Stewardship set forth in ¶ 71 of the Discipline been adopted?

§ 16 [-1-] What amounts have been estimated for, and apportioned to, this Charge this year for the support of the Ministry?

1. For Pastor.
2. For Assistant.
3. For Rent.
4. For Traveling and Moving Expenses.
5. For Conference Claimants.
6. For District Superintendent.
7. For Episcopal Fund.

§ 17. What amounts have been received this quarter for the support of the Ministry, and how have they been applied?

Received:

1. For Pastors.
2. For Rent.
3. For Traveling and Moving Expenses.
4. For Conference Claimants.
5. For District Superintendent.
6. For Episcopal Fund.

Applied:

1. To Pastors.
2. To Rent.
3. To Traveling and Moving Expenses.
4. To Conference Claimants.
5. For District Superintendent.
6. To Episcopal Fund.

§ 18. Have the directions of the Discipline for raising supplies for the support of the Ministry been carried out? ¶¶ 319-328, 410.

§ 19. Have the directions of the Discipline for the

support of Conference Claimants been carried out, and has the *pro rata* division been made? ¶¶ 321, 336, 338, 410.

§ 20. Has the apportionment for the Episcopal Fund been paid?

§ 21. Has the apportionment for the Expenses of the General Conference and other general expenses been paid?

§ 22. What is the Financial Plan adopted by the Benevolence Committee? (in case the Charge is a Circuit the question will apply to each Church).

§ 23. Have the directions of the Discipline for raising benevolent funds been carried out?

§ 24. What amounts have been received this quarter for benevolent purposes, and how have they been applied?

§ 25. [-4-] What amounts are officially apportioned to this Charge for benevolent causes for next year?

1. For Board of Foreign Missions.
2. For Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.
3. For Freedmen's Aid Society.
4. For Board of Sunday Schools.
5. For Education—Public Education.
6. For American Bible Society.
7. For Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals.
8. For General Deaconess Board.
9. For other purposes as ordered by the Annual Conferences.

§ 26. [-1-] What is the complete record of benevolent offerings for the past year?

1. For Board of Foreign Missions: *a*. From

Church. *b.* From Sunday Schools. *c.* From Special gifts.

2. For Board of Home Missions and Church Extension: *a.* From Church. *b.* From Sunday Schools. *c.* From Special Gifts.
3. For Freedmen's Aid Society.
4. For Board of Sunday Schools: *a.* From Church. *b.* From Sunday Schools, including 10% Sunday School Missionary Offering.
5. For Board of Education: *a.* Public Educational Collection. *b.* Children's Day Fund.
6. For American Bible Society.
7. For Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals.
8. For General Deaconess Board.
9. For Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
10. For Woman's Home Missionary Society.
11. For City Missionary or Church Extension Society.
12. For Other Purposes.

§ 27. Who are licensed to preach, or recommended to the District Conference for License to preach? ¶ 214.

§ 28. [-4-] Was the Character of each Local Preacher, Exhorter, and Deaconess examined? ¶¶ 220, 228, 236, § 6.

§ 29. *a.* What Local Preachers and Exhorters are recommended to the District Conference for renewal of License? ¶¶ 220, 228.

b. [-4-] What Local Preachers and Exhorters have had their Licenses renewed? ¶¶ 220, 228.

§ 30. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended for Orders. ¶ 220, § 3.

§ 31. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended for the recognition of Orders? ¶¶ 165, § 2; 220, § 3.

§ 32. [-4-] What Local Preachers are recommended for Reception on Trial in the Annual Conference? ¶ 220, § 3.

§ 33. [-4-] How much Insurance is carried on each item of Church Property? ¶¶ 190, § 9; 350.

§ 34. [-1-] Who are the Custodians of the Deeds and other legal papers affecting the Church property?

§ 35. [-4-] (*a*) When and by whom was the sermon on Education preached?

(*b*) Has the canvass for Education been made?

(*c*) What amount was contributed?

(*d*) Was Children's Day observed?

(*e*) Amount of Collection?

§ 36. (*a*) What students from this Charge are attending any of *our* Church Schools?

(*b*) In what institutions are they enrolled?

(*c*) What young people in this Charge should attend *our* schools in the near future?

(*d*) Have their names been sent to the educational institution supported by the Annual Conference?

§ 37. *a.* What students within the Pastoral Charge are attending *any* secondary school, college, university, or theological school?

b. Have our Pastors been notified that students of this Pastoral Charge are attending school in their Charges?

§ 38. Have the Rules respecting the Instruction of Children been observed? ¶¶ 49-54.

§ 39. [-4-] Has the Pastor made a Visiting List, or Plan of his Charge, as required by the Discipline? ¶ 182, § 29.

§ 40. [-4-] What Committees are appointed for the ensuing Conference year? ¶ 107, § 10.

§ 41. [-4-] Have the General Rules been read this year? ¶ 182, § 4.

§ 42. Where shall the next Quarterly Conference be held?

§ 43. Is there any other Business?

III. Auditing and Records

¶ 109. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Auditing Accounts to audit the books of the Church Treasurer and of the Treasurers of all Boards or organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Charge represented in the Quarterly Conference, and the accounts of the Benevolent Treasurer or Treasurers of the Charge, and report the same in writing at the first Quarterly Conference.

¶ 110. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Church Records to examine the records of membership, the minutes of the Quarterly Conference, the records of the Trustees, and the records of all the boards or organizations of the local Church or Churches of the Pastoral Charge, represented in the Quarterly Conference, and to make a written report thereon at the fourth Quarterly Conference. When any of these books are filled and are no longer in use, they shall be deposited with the Recording Steward for preservation.

IV. Apportioned Benevolences

¶ 111, § 1. There shall be nominated by the Pastor in each Charge for each organized Church within the

Charge, for election by the fourth Quarterly Conference, a committee of at least five on the Apportioned Benevolences, the Pastor being *ex officio* chairman. The Pastor, aided by this committee, shall arrange for a presentation to the public congregation of the interests and work of each of the Apportioned Benevolences as hereinafter provided.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of this Committee to raise the amounts apportioned to the Charge for the Benevolent Boards, as handed down by the Commission on Finance and to inculcate principles of Christian stewardship as presented in ¶ 71 of the Discipline. The budget for these benevolences shall be kept separate from that for the local Church expenses and for local benevolent causes. The Quarterly Conference or the Official Board shall elect a special Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive and keep an itemized account of the funds contributed to these benevolences. He shall remit the same monthly or quarterly to the Treasurers of the Boards for which the same are intended. This committee shall provide for a careful and systematic canvass of the membership of the Church and congregation to secure pledges upon a weekly basis for at least the amount apportioned to the Charge. In making the canvass for the apportioned benevolences, the committee may work in conjunction with the Official Board or Quarterly Conference in its canvass for ministerial support, current expense, or any local benevolent items. In the local Church budget the item of ministerial support, which includes the claims for Pastors, District Superintendent, Bishops, and Conference Claimants, and the item of current expense, which includes sexton, light, fuel, insurance, and other local expenses, shall in no

case be included in the benevolent budget or paid from the moneys received for the benevolences.

CHAPTER VIII

OFFICIAL BOARD

¶ 112, § 1. The Quarterly Conference of any Charge may organize and continue during its pleasure an Official Board, to be composed of all the members of the Quarterly Conference. In the case of circuits the Quarterly Conference may organize, and continue during its pleasure, Official Boards for the several appointments of the Charge, such Official Boards to be composed of the members of the Quarterly Conference attached to the respective appointments. The Official Board shall hold its meetings monthly on a stated day. It shall be presided over by the Pastor, or, in his absence, by a Vice-Chairman regularly elected; and there shall also be chosen a Secretary who shall keep a record of its proceedings, and send the same to the fourth Quarterly Conference for approval; it shall also elect two Treasurers for each appointment, one for Current Expenses, and one for Benevolences, who shall keep a careful record of the receipts and disbursements of all moneys, and report the same at each regular monthly meeting. When so organized the Official Board may discharge the duties of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting. When such action is taken it shall make void such provisions of the Discipline, under "Ministerial Support," as relate to the financial duties of the Stewards. ¶¶ 317, 323.

§ 2. The Official Board or, where no such Board is organized, the Quarterly Conference shall further organize by the selection, with the consent of the

PART III
THE MINISTRY

I. QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK
II. MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES
III. DEACONS
IV. ELDERS
V. PASTORS
VI. LEAVE OF ABSENCE
VII. SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS
VIII. RETIRED MINISTERS
IX. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS
X. MISSIONARY BISHOPS
XI. BISHOPS
XII. RETIRED BISHOPS

CHAPTER I

QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK

I. Call to Preach

¶ **114.** In order that we may try those persons who profess to be moved by the Holy Ghost to preach let the following questions be asked, namely:

§ 1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? Are they holy in all manner of conversation?

§ 2. Have they gifts, as well as grace, for the work? Have they, in some tolerable degree, a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? Has God given them any degree of utterance? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?

§ 3. Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by their preaching?

§ 4. As long as these marks concur in anyone, we believe he is called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that he is moved by the Holy Ghost.

II. Rules for a Preacher's Conduct

¶ **115.** *Rule* 1. Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary.

¶ 116. *Rule* 2. Be serious. Let your motto be, "Holiness to the Lord." Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talking.

¶ 117. *Rule* 3. Converse sparingly and conduct yourself prudently with women (1 Tim. 5. 2).

¶ 118. *Rule* 4. Believe evil of no one without good evidence; unless you see it done take heed how you credit it. Put the best construction on everything. You know the judge is always supposed to be on the prisoner's side.

¶ 119. *Rule* 5. Speak evil of no one, because your word, especially, would eat as doth a canker. Keep your thoughts within your own breast till you come to the person concerned.

¶ 120. *Rule* 6. Tell everyone under your care what you think wrong in his conduct and temper, and that lovingly and plainly, as soon as may be; else it will fester in your heart. Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom.

¶ 121. *Rule* 7. Avoid all affectation. A Preacher of the Gospel is the servant of all.

¶ 122. *Rule* 8. Be ashamed of nothing but sin.

¶ 123. *Rule* 9. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience sake.

¶ 124. *Rule* 10. You have nothing to do but to save souls; therefore spend and be spent in this work; and go always not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.

Observe! it is not your business only to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that Society, but to save as many as you can; to bring as many sinners as you can to repentance, and with all your power to build them up in that holiness without

which they cannot see the Lord. And remember! a Methodist Preacher is to mind every point, great and small, in the Methodist Discipline! Therefore you will need to exercise all the sense and grace you have.

¶ **125.** *Rule* 11. Act in all things not according to your own will, but as a son in the Gospel. As such, it is your duty to employ your time in the manner in which we direct: in preaching, and visiting from house to house; in reading, meditation, and prayer. Above all, if you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for His glory.

¶ **126.** Smaller advices which might be of use to us are perhaps these: 1. Be sure never to disappoint a congregation. 2. Begin at the time appointed. 3. Let your whole deportment be serious, weighty, and solemn. 4. Always suit your subject to your audience. 5. Choose the plainest text you can. 6. Take care not to ramble, but keep to your text, and make out what you take in hand. 7. Take care of anything awkward or affected, either in your gesture, phrase, or pronunciation. 8. Do not usually pray *extempore* above eight or ten minutes (at most) without intermission. 9. Frequently read and enlarge upon a portion of Scripture; and let young Preachers often exhort without taking a text. 10. Always avail yourself of the great festivals by preaching on the occasion.

III. Spiritual Qualifications

¶ **127.** The duty of the Preacher is: 1. To preach. 2. To meet the Societies and Classes. 3. To visit the sick.

¶ 128. A Preacher shall be qualified for his charge by walking closely with God, and having his work greatly at heart, and by understanding and loving discipline, ours in particular.

¶ 129. We do not sufficiently watch over each other. Should we not frequently ask each other, Do you walk closely with God? Have you now fellowship with the Father and the Son? At what hour do you rise? Do you punctually observe the morning and evening hours of retirement? Do you spend the day in the manner which the Conference advises? Do you converse seriously, usefully, and closely? To be more particular: Do you use all the means of grace yourself, and enforce the use of them on all other persons?

¶ 130. The means of grace are either Instituted or Prudential.

¶ 131. The INSTITUTED are:

§ 1. *Prayer:* private, family, and public; consisting of deprecation, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving. Do you use each of these? Do you forecast daily, wherever you are, to secure time for private devotion? Do you practice it everywhere? Do you ask everywhere, Have you family prayer? Do you ask individuals, Do you use private prayer every morning and evening in particular?

§ 2. *Searching the Scriptures:* 1. Reading: constantly, some part of every day; regularly, all the Bible in order; carefully, with notes; seriously, with prayer before and after; fruitfully, immediately practicing what you learn there. 2. Meditating: at set times; by rule. 3. Hearing: at every opportunity; with prayer before, at, after. Have you a Bible always about you?

§ 3. *The Lord's Supper:* Do you use this at every

opportunity? With solemn prayer before? With earnest and deliberate self-devotion?

§ 4. *Fasting:* Do you use as much abstinence and fasting every week as your health, strength, and labor will permit?

§ 5. *Christian Conference:* Are you convinced how important and how difficult it is to order your conversation aright? Is it always in grace? Seasoned with salt? Meet to minister grace to the hearers? Do you not converse too long at a time? Is not an hour commonly enough? Would it not be well always to have a determined end in view? And to pray before and after it?

¶ **132.** PRUDENTIAL means we may use either as Christians, as Methodists, or as Preachers.

§ 1. *As Christians:* What particular rules have you in order to grow in grace? What arts of holy living?

§ 2. *As Methodists:* Do you ever miss your Class?

§ 3. *As Preachers:* Have you thoroughly considered your duty? And do you make a conscience of executing every part of it? Do you meet every Society and their Leaders?

¶ **133.** These means may be used without fruit. But there are some means which cannot, namely: watching, denying ourselves, taking up our cross, exercise of the presence of God.

§ 1. Do you steadily watch against the world? Yourself? Your besetting sin?

§ 2. Do you deny yourself every useless pleasure of sense? imagination? honor? Are you temperate in all things? For instance, 1. Do you use only that kind and that degree of food which is best both for body and soul? Do you see the necessity of this? Do you eat no more at each meal than is necessary? Are

you not heavy or drowsy after dinner? 2. Do you use only that kind and that degree of drink which is best both for your body and soul? Do you choose and use water for your common drink, and only take wine medicinally or sacramentally?

§ 3. Wherein do you take up your cross daily? Do you cheerfully bear your cross, however grievous to nature, as a gift of God, and labor to profit thereby?

§ 4. Do you endeavor to set God always before you? To see his eye continually fixed upon you?

¶ 134. Never can you use these means but a blessing will ensue. And the more you use them the more you will grow in grace.

IV. Profitable Use of Time

¶ 135. As a general method of employing our time we advise you, 1. As often as possible to rise at four. 2. From four to five in the morning and from five to six in the evening to meditate, pray, and read the Scriptures with notes, and the closely practical part of what Mr. Wesley has published. 3. From six in the morning till twelve, wherever it is practicable, let the time be spent in appropriate reading, study, and private devotion.

¶ 136. Other reasons may concur, but the chief reason that the people under our care are not better is because we are not more knowing and more holy.

¶ 137. And we are not more knowing because we are idle. We forget our first rule: "Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary." We fear there is altogether a

fault in this matter, and that few of us are clear. Which of us spend as many hours a day in God's work as we did formerly in man's work? We talk —talk—or read what comes next to hand. We must, absolutely must, cure this evil, or betray the cause of God. But how? 1. Read the most useful books, and that regularly and constantly: 2. Steadily spend all the morning in this employment, or at least five hours in the four and twenty. "But I have no taste for reading." Contract a taste for it by use or return to your former employment. "But I have no books." Be diligent to spread the books, and you will have the use of them.

V. Necessity of Union Among Ourselves

¶ **138.** Let us be deeply sensible (from what we have known) of the evil of a division in principle, spirit, or practice, and the dreadful consequences to ourselves and others. If we are united, what can stand before us? If we divide, we shall destroy ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of our people.

¶ **139.** In order to a closer union with each other, 1. Let us be deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of it. 2. Pray earnestly for, and speak freely to, each other. 3. When we meet, let us never part without prayer. 4. Take great care not to despise each other's gifts. 5. Never speak lightly of each other. 6. Let us defend each other's character in everything so far as is consistent with truth. 7. Labor in honor each to prefer the other before himself. We recommend a serious perusal of *The Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions.*

VI. Deportment at Conference

¶ 140. It is desired that all things be considered on these occasions as in the immediate presence of God; that every person speak freely whatever is in his heart.

¶ 141. In order, therefore, that we may best improve our time at the Conferences, 1. While we are conversing let us have an especial care to set God always before us. 2. In the intermediate hours let us redeem all the time we can for private exercises. 3. Therein let us give ourselves to prayer for one another, and for a blessing on our labor.

VII. Where and How to Preach

¶ 142. It is by no means advisable for us to preach in as many places as we can without forming any Societies. We have made the trial in various places, and that for a considerable time. But all that seed has fallen by the wayside. There is scarcely any fruit remaining.

¶ 143. We should endeavor to preach most, 1. Where there is the greatest number of quiet and willing hearers; 2. Where there is most fruit.

¶ 144. We ought diligently to observe in what places God is pleased at any time to pour out his Spirit more abundantly, and at that time to send more laborers than usual into that part of the harvest.

¶ 145. The best general method of preaching is, 1. To convince; 2. To offer Christ; 3. To invite; 4. To build up. And to do this in some measure in every sermon.

¶ 146. The most effectual way of preaching Christ is to preach him in all his offices; and to declare his

law, as well as his Gospel, both to believers and unbelievers. Let us strongly and closely insist upon inward and outward holiness in all its branches.

VIII. Pastoral Fidelity

¶ 147. We can further assist those under our care by instructing them at their own houses. What unspeakable need is there of this! The world says, "The Methodists are no better than other people." This is not true in the general; but,

§ 1. Personal religion, both toward God and man, is too superficial among us. We can only touch on a few particulars. How little faith is there among us! How little communion with God! How little living in heaven, walking in eternity, deadness to every creature! How much love of the world! Desire of pleasure, of ease, of getting money! How little brotherly love! What continual judging one another! What gossiping, evil-speaking, talebearing! What want of moral honesty! To instance only one particular: Who does as he would be done by in buying and selling?

§ 2. Family religion is wanting in many branches. And what avails public preaching alone, though we could preach like angels? We must, yea, every Traveling Preacher must, instruct the people from house to house. Till this be done, and that in good earnest, Methodists will be no better.

§ 3. Our religion is not sufficiently deep, universal, uniform; but superficial, partial, uneven. It will be so till we spend half as much time in this visiting as we now do in talking uselessly. Can we find a better method of doing this than Mr. Baxter's? If not, let

us adopt it without delay. His whole tract, entitled *Gildas Salvianus; or, The Reformed Pastor*, is well worth a careful perusal. Speaking of this visiting from house to house he says (p. 273), "We shall find many hindrances, both in ourselves and the people." 1. In ourselves there is much dullness and laziness, so that there will be much ado to get us to be faithful in the work. 2. We have a base, man-pleasing temper, so that we let people perish rather than lose their love; we let them go quietly to hell lest we should offend them. 3. Some of us also have a foolish bashfulness. We know not how to begin, and blush to contradict the devil. 4. But the greatest hindrance is weakness of faith. Our whole motion is weak, because the spring of it is weak. 5. Lastly, we are unskillful in the work. How few know how to deal with men, so as to get within them, and suit all our discourse to their several conditions and tempers, to choose the fittest subjects and follow them with a holy mixture of seriousness, terror, love, and meekness!

¶ **148.** But undoubtedly this private application is implied in those solemn words of the Apostle: "I charge thee before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing, to preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering."

¶ **149.** O brethren, if we could but set this work on foot in all our Societies, and prosecute it zealously, what glory would redound to God! If the common lukewarmness were banished, and every shop, and every house, busied in speaking of the words and works of God, surely God would dwell in our habitations, and make us his delight!

¶ 150. And this is absolutely necessary to the welfare of our people, some of whom neither repent nor believe to this day. Look around, and see how many of them are still in apparent danger of damnation. And how can you walk and talk, and be merry with such people, when you know their case? When you look them in the face, you should break forth into tears, as the prophet did when he looked upon Hazael, and then set upon them with the most vehement exhortations. O, for God's sake, and the sake of poor souls, bestir yourselves, and spare no pains that may conduce to their salvation! What cause have we to mourn before the Lord that we have so long neglected this good work! If we had but engaged in it sooner, how many more might have been brought to Christ! And how much holier and happier might our Societies have been before now! And why might we not have done it sooner? There were many hindrances; and so there always will be. But the greatest hindrance is in ourselves, in our littleness of faith and love.

¶ 151. But it is objected: -

§ 1. "This will take up so much time that we shall not have leisure to follow our studies." We answer, 1. Gaining knowledge is a good thing, but saving souls is a better. 2. By this very thing you will gain the most excellent knowledge, that of God and eternity. 3. You will have time for gaining other knowledge, too, only sleep no more than you need, "and never be idle, nor triflingly employed." But, 4. If you can do but one, let your studies alone. We ought to throw by all the libraries in the world, rather than be guilty of the loss of one soul.

§ 2. "The people will not submit to it." If some will not, others will, and the success with them will

repay all your labor. O let us herein follow the example of St. Paul! 1. For our general business, *Serving the Lord with all humility of mind:* 2. Our special work, *Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock:* 3. Our doctrine, *Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ:* 4. The place, *I have taught you publicly, and from house to house:* 5. The object and manner of teaching, *I ceased not to warn everyone night and day, with tears:* 6. His innocence and self-denial herein, *I have coveted no man's silver or gold:* 7. His patience, *Neither count I my life dear unto myself.* And among all other motives let these be ever before our eyes: (1) *The Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood:* (2) *Grievous wolves shall enter in; yea, of yourselves shall men arise, speaking perverse things.*

¶ 152. Write this upon your hearts, and it will do you more good than twenty years' study. Then you will have no time to spare: you will have work enough. Then likewise no Preacher will stay with us who is as salt that has lost its savor. For to such this employment would be mere drudgery. And in order to do it, you will have need of all the knowledge you can procure, and grace you can attain.

¶ 153. The sum is, Go into every house in course, and teach everyone therein, young and old, to be Christians inwardly and outwardly: make every particular plain to their understandings: fix it in their minds: write it on their hearts. In order to this, there must be precept upon precept, line upon line. What patience, what love, what knowledge is requisite for this! We must needs do this, were it only to avoid idleness. Do we not loiter away many hours in every week? Each try himself; no idleness is con-

sistent with a growth in grace. Nay, without exactness in redeeming time you cannot retain the grace you receive in justification.

¶ **154.** Why are we not more holy? why do we not live in eternity? walk with God all the day long? why are we not all devoted to God, breathing the whole spirit of missionaries? Chiefly because we are enthusiasts; looking for the end without using the means. To touch only upon two or three instances: Who of us rise at four, or even at five, when we do not preach? Do we know the obligation and benefit of fasting or abstinence? How often do we practice it? The neglect of this alone is sufficient to account for our feebleness and faintness of spirit. We are continually grieving the Holy Spirit of God by the habitual neglect of a plain duty. Let us amend from this hour.

¶ **155.** In order to guard against Sabbath-breaking, evil-speaking, unprofitable conversation, lightness, expensiveness or gayety of apparel, and contracting debts without due care to discharge them, 1. Let us preach expressly on each of these heads. 2. Read in every Society the Sermon on Evil-speaking. 3. Let the Leaders closely examine and exhort every person to put away the accursed thing. 4. Let the Preachers warn every Society that none who is guilty herein can remain with us. 5. Extirpate out of our Church buying or selling goods which have not paid the duty laid upon them by government. Let none remain with us who will not totally abstain from evil in every kind and degree. Extirpate bribery—receiving anything, directly or indirectly—for voting at any election. Show no respect to persons herein, but expel all that touch the accursed

thing. And strongly advise our people to discountenance all treats given by candidates before or at elections, and not to be partakers, in any respect, of such iniquitous practices.

CHAPTER II

MINISTERS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. Reception on Trial

¶ 156. A Preacher is to be received on Trial by an Annual or Mission Conference.

¶ 157, § 1. He must (1) present a recommendation duly signed by the President and Secretary of the District Conference, or, where no District Conference exists, of the Quarterly Conference, of which he is a member; (2) give to the Annual or Mission Conference satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the studies prescribed for candidates for Reception on Trial; and (3) have previously deposited with the Committee on Conference Relations (¶ 81, § 2) written answers to the following questions, namely:

1. Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in the work of the Ministry? Answer; No.

2. Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco? Answer; Yes.

NOTE.—Like answers shall also be required of Ministers coming to us from other Churches.

§ 2. Observe! Taking on Trial is entirely different from admitting a Preacher into Full Membership. One on Trial may be either admitted or rejected without doing him any wrong; otherwise it would be no trial at all.

¶ 158. While he is on Trial the Annual Conference alone has jurisdiction over the question of his authority to preach; and his continuance on Trial shall be equivalent to the renewal of his License to preach. If he shall be discontinued, he shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference of the Charge where he resides at the time; and, if he is not a Deacon or Elder, his License shall expire within one year unless it be renewed.

¶ 159. When an unordained Preacher is received on trial in an Annual Conference, and, without an ordained colleague, is regularly appointed to a Pastoral Charge by the Bishop presiding in said Conference; or when a Local Preacher, not on trial, is employed by the District Superintendent to supply a Pastoral Charge, in either case and as long as the above conditions exist, the Pastor or the pastoral supply so appointed shall be authorized to administer the Sacrament of Baptism; and also to solemnize Matrimony, if the laws of the State in which he lives permit.

¶ 160. At each Annual Conference those who are received on Trial or are admitted into Full Membership shall be asked whether they are willing to devote themselves to missionary work; and a list of the names of all those who are willing to do so shall be taken and reported to the Corresponding Secretaries of the Board of Foreign Missions; and all such shall be considered as ready and willing to be employed as Missionaries whenever called for by any of the Bishops.

II. Admission into Full Membership

¶ 161. A Preacher on Trial who has been em-

ployed in the regular itinerant work on Circuits or Stations, or as instructor in one of our institutions of learning, for two successive years from the time he was received on Trial, may be admitted into Full Membership in the Annual Conference after he has given satisfactory evidence of his knowledge of the first two years of the Conference Course of Study, and after the examination before the Conference prescribed in ¶ 162; provided, this shall not be so construed as to prevent the reception into Full Membership of one who, while a student in some one of our literary schools or theological seminaries, has been for the proper length of time regularly employed as Pastor in a Circuit or Station under the appointment of the District Superintendent.

¶ 162. In admitting a Preacher at the Conference into Full Membership, after solemn fasting and prayer, he shall be asked, before the Conference, the following questions, with any others which may be thought necessary, namely:

1. Have you faith in Christ?
2. Are you going on to perfection?
3. Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
4. Are you earnestly striving after it?
5. Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work?
6. Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
7. Will you keep them?
8. Have you studied the Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church?
9. After full examination do you believe that our Doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
10. Will you preach and maintain them?

11. Have you studied our form of Church Discipline and Polity?

12. Do you approve our Church Government and Polity?

13. Will you support and maintain them?

14. Have you considered the Rules for a Preacher, especially those relating to Diligence, to Punctuality, and to Doing the Work to which you are assigned?

15. Will you keep them for conscience' sake?

16. Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?

17. Will you visit from house to house?

18. Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?

19. Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?

NOTE.—The candidate for Admission into Full Membership must again deposit with the Committee on Conference Relations, written answers to the questions set forth in ¶ 157, § 1.

¶ 163. A Missionary employed in a Mission may be admitted into Full Membership, if recommended by the Superintendent of the Mission where he labors, without being present at his Annual Conference for examination; but whenever practicable he shall be asked the questions in ¶ 162, in the presence of the Members of the Mission at the Annual Meeting, otherwise in the presence of the Superintendent.

¶ 164. A Minister who has been located at his own request may be readmitted by an Annual Conference, at its discretion, upon his Certificate of Location.

III. Ministers from Other Churches

¶ 165, § 1. Ministers duly accredited as in good standing in other Evangelical Churches until their

withdrawal or dismissal therefrom, and having been blameless in life and doctrine thereafter, may be received into our ministry in the following manner:

The Quarterly Conference may receive them as Local Preachers not entitled to administer the Sacraments.

§ 2. Upon the recommendation of the District Conference, or of the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, the Annual Conference may at any time thereafter recognize the Orders of those thus received; may at any time within two years thereafter, upon like recommendation, receive them into the Conference, either on Trial or in Full Membership; and may, at its discretion, require them to pursue, in whole or in part, the Conference Course of Study. In case a Minister comes from a Church having but a single Order in its ministry, the Conference may receive him either as a Deacon or as an Elder.

§ 3. But the Ministers of the above description may apply directly to the Annual Conference, which may receive their Credentials from another Church, and, finding them of unquestionable validity and sufficiency, may exercise in behalf of said Ministers all the powers conferred in the preceding section.

§ 4. In all such cases the candidates for Admission into Full Membership must answer satisfactorily the questions set forth in ¶ 162; and candidates who come from other than Methodist Churches before the recognition of their Orders, must take upon themselves our Ordination Vows, and give satisfactory evidence of their agreement with us in Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 5. The Annual Conference may also admit to

equal grade Preachers who are on Trial in the ministry of another Methodist Church, using, however, special care that before they are admitted to Full Membership their examination be entirely satisfactory.

¶ **166.** Wherever the Orders of a Minister are recognized according to the foregoing provisions he shall be furnished with a Certificate, signed by the Bishop, in the following words, namely:

"*This is to Certify* that the ..... Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having examined the Credentials of the Rev. ..... as ..... (*an Elder* or *a Deacon*) of the ..,..... Church, and having received other testimonials of his Grace, Gifts, and Usefulness, and being satisfied therewith, has this day accepted and recognized him in due form as ..,..... (*an Elder* or *a Deacon*) in the Methodist Episcopal Church, entitled to exercise under its authority all the functions pertaining to that office, so long as his life and doctrine become the Gospel of Christ.

"Given under my hand and seal at ....., this ..... day of ,....., in the year of our Lord .....

"....., President."

¶ **167.** When the Orders of a Minister of another Church shall have been duly recognized, his Certificate of Ordination by said Church shall be returned to him with the following inscription written plainly across its face:

"Accredited by the ..... Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, this .... day of ...., 19.., as the basis of new Credentials.

"....., President.

"....., Secretary."

IV. Ministers in Official Positions

¶ 168. Traveling Preachers who are elected to official positions by the General Conference shall be Members of such Annual Conferences as, with the approbation of the Bishops, they may select.

V. Termination of Conference Membership

1. *By Location*

¶ 169. An Annual Conference may grant to any Member who is in good standing therein a Location, certified by the President of the Conference. Such Minister shall thereupon hold his membership, as a Local Elder or Deacon, in the Quarterly Conference where he resides. ¶ 221, § 4.

¶ 170. Whenever a Member of an Annual Conference applies for a Location it shall be asked: Is he indebted to the Book Concern? If it be ascertained that he is so indebted the Conference shall require him to secure said debt, if judged necessary or proper, before a Location is granted.

2. *By the Surrender of Ministerial Office*

¶ 171 Any Member of an Annual Conference in good standing, who may desire to surrender his Ministerial Office and withdraw from the Conference, may be allowed to do so by the Conference at its session; in which case his Credentials shall be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference of which he was a Member, and his membership in the Church shall be recorded in the Society where he resided at the time of such surrender.

3. *By Withdrawal*

¶ 172, §1. When a Minister in good standing withdraws to join the Ministry of another Church, his Credentials should be surrendered to the Conference, and, if he shall desire it, they may be returned to him with the following inscription written, plainly across their face, namely:

"A..... B..... has this day been honorably dismissed by the ..... Annual Conference from the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Dated .....

"....., President,

"....., Secretary."

§ 2. When in the interval of the Annual Conference a Member thereof shall deposit with a Bishop or with his District Superintendent a letter of withdrawal from our Ministry, or his Credentials, or both, the same shall be presented to the Annual Conference at its next session for its action thereon.

4. *By Judicial Procedure*

¶ 173. Conference Membership may be terminated also by Judicial Procedure.

For Causes and Methods, see ¶¶ 252-269.

CHAPTER III

DEACONS

¶ 174. A Deacon is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference and the laying on of the hands of a Bishop.

¶ 175. A Deacon has authority to preach; to con-

duct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony; to administer Baptism; and to assist the Elder in administering the Lord's Supper.

¶ 176. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Deacon:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for four consecutive years; (2) shall present a recommendation for Deacon's Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the studies prescribed for Local Preachers who are candidates for Deacons' Orders.

NOTE.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been Local Preachers for two full years; and (2) also at and during the same time have been regular students in one of our theological seminaries; (3) shall have been received on Trial; and (4) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been on Trial in an Annual Conference for two years, and (2) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the first two years of the Conference Course of Study.

§ 4. Those Preachers on Trial who shall be appointed by a Bishop to a foreign Mission, or to a remote field in any Conference, or to a Church in a foreign country outside of the boundary of a Mission or Annual Conference, or to a Chaplaincy in the Army or Navy, in a Prison, Reformatory, Sanato-

rium, or a Charitable Institution, provided, that the presiding Bishop and a majority of the District Superintendents recommend such election.

CHAPTER IV

ELDERS

¶ 177. An Elder is constituted by the election of the Annual Conference, and by the laying on of the hands of a Bishop and of some of the Elders who are present.

¶ 178. An Elder has authority to preach; to conduct Divine Worship; to solemnize Matrimony, and to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

¶ 179. Preachers of the following classes are eligible to the Office of Elder:

§ 1. Those who (1) have been for four consecutive years Local Deacons; (2) shall present a recommendation for Elders' Orders from the District Conference or from the Quarterly Conference where no District Conference exists, duly attested by the President and Secretary thereof; and (3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Annual Conference, the Studies prescribed for Local Deacons who are candidates for Elders' Orders.

NOTE 1.—Preachers on Trial in an Annual Conference are for purposes of ordination, as for amenability, considered as Local Preachers.

NOTE 2.—The Election of such Preachers to Elders' Orders properly precedes their Admission to Full Membership.

§ 2. Those who (1) have been in Full Membership in the Annual Conference for two successive years, and (2) also Deacons during the same time, and

(3) shall have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study.

§ 3. Those who (1) have been received on Trial, and elected to the office of Deacon under the provision of ¶ 176, § 2; (2) have completed, satisfactorily to the Conference, the Conference Course of Study, and (3) have been admitted into Full Membership.

§ 4. Those who (1) are members of, or have been received on Trial in an Annual Conference, and (2) have been appointed to a Chaplaincy in the Army, or Navy, or to a foreign Mission, or to the Pastorate of a Church in a foreign country outside of a Mission or Conference, or to a Mission among foreign people within an English-speaking Conference.

¶ 180. When a Preacher shall have passed his examination, and shall have been admitted into Full Membership, and elected to the Office of Deacon, but fails of his Ordination through the absence of the Bishop, his eligibility to the Office of Elder shall count from the time of his election to the Office of Deacon.

¶ 181. The Annual Conferences in India are authorized, with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, to elect to the Office of Deacon or Elder, Local Preachers who have been engaged in the regular work for two years, or four years, respectively.

CHAPTER V

PASTORS (Preachers in Charge)

1. *Duties*

¶ 182. The duties of the Pastor of a Station or Circuit are:

§ 1. To have the oversight of the other Preachers in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 2. To appoint Class Leaders; to change them when he deems it necessary, and to examine each of them, with all possible exactness, at least once a Quarter, concerning his method of leading a Class.

§ 3. To receive persons into preparatory membership and instruct them in the doctrines, rules, and regulations of the Church according to the Preparatory Members' Manual officially provided; to receive persons into Full Membership when properly recommended; to receive and dismiss members by Certificate, and to administer the Discipline within his Pastoral Charge.

§ 4. To read and explain the General Rules at least once a year in each Congregation.

§ 5. To appoint Prayer Meetings wherever advisable in his Pastoral Charge.

§ 6. To arrange the appointments, wherever practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

§ 7. To license such persons as he may deem proper to officiate as Exhorters in the Church, according to the provisions of the Discipline, ¶ 227.

§ 8. To hold Watch-night Meetings yearly, and Love Feasts quarterly, suffering no Love Feast to last above an hour and a half; to hold Quarterly Meetings in the absence of the District Superintendent and of the Traveling Elder appointed by him as his substitute.

§ 9. To take care that every Society be supplied with our Church literature.

§ 10. To form Classes of the larger children, youth, and adults for instruction in the Word of God;

and to attend to all the duties prescribed for the training of children. ¶¶ 51-54.

§ 11. To catechize the children publicly in the Sunday School, at special meetings appointed for that purpose, and also privately; to report to each Quarterly Conference the extent to which he has done this work.

§ 12. To organize and maintain, if practicable, Chapters of the Epworth League and of the Junior Epworth League.

§ 13. To organize and maintain, if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.

§ 14. To organize and maintain, if practicable, a Home Department in the Sunday School.

§ 15. To examine the accounts of the Stewards.

§ 16. To see that the Stewards provide, whenever practicable, unfermented wine for use in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

§ 17. To teach the duty of Christian Stewardship in accordance with Special Advices, ¶ 71.

§ 18. In the absence of any other financial plan to appoint a person to receive the quarterly collection in the Classes.

§ 19. To see that public collections be made quarterly if need be.

§ 20. To call the Committee on Temperance together at least once in three months for the purpose of considering the best means to be employed for promoting the cause of Temperance in the community.

§ 21. To recommend everywhere decency and cleanliness.

§ 22. To attend to the duties enjoined upon Pastors in reference to Conference Claimants, Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Edu-

cation, Sunday Schools, Freedmen's Aid, and the distribution of Tracts; to form societies and take collections in aid of these objects in such manner as the Discipline shall direct.

§ 23. To take a collection or subscription, the proceeds of which shall be at the disposal of the Pastor for the distribution of Tracts, if the Annual Conference shall not give other directions on the subject.

§ 24. To take an annual collection in behalf of the American Bible Society.

§ 25. To take a collection during each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference to aid in providing for the expenses of the General Conference, Judicial Conferences, Fraternal Delegates, and such General Conference Commissions as do not relate to the publishing interests.

§ 26. To take an annual collection in behalf of the Board of Sunday Schools, and to see that a collection be taken annually in each Sunday School.

§ 27. To register carefully Marriages and Baptisms.

§ 28. To give an account of the Charge every Quarter to the District Superintendent.

§ 29. At the close of each Conference year to make a Visiting List of members in towns and cities, by streets and numbers, and to leave it to his successor, together with a particular account of his Charge and a list of subscribers for our Periodicals.

2. *Reports*

¶ 183. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to prepare properly and to present the following reports:

§ 1. To make an exact report to the Annual Conference of all the items required for the Statistics of the Conference, and to deliver to the Conference Treas-

urer all moneys raised for benevolent causes, or satisfactory vouchers for the same (¶ 88, §§ 2, 3), using the forms prescribed in ¶¶ 91 and 92; and to report in open Conference whether or not he has presented the claims of the benevolent causes according to the requirements of the Discipline.

§ 2. To make a written report at each Quarterly Conference in the order set forth in the following form:

The Preacher in charge of ....., ... Conference presents the following

QUARTERLY REPORT

of ..... Charge to the ..... Quarterly Conference held at ....., 19....

I. *Changes in Membership*

[NOTE.—Enter under each item the names of the persons and places concerned.]

1. Persons desiring to Unite with the Church.
2. Persons Received into Membership from Preparatory Membership.
3. Persons Received into Membership by Certificate.
4. Persons Received from Other Evangelical Churches.
5. Persons Dismissed by Certificate and to what Pastoral Charges.
6. Certificates Acknowledged to the Pastoral Charges issuing the same.
7. Certificates issued to other Charges acknowledged by the same.
8. Deceased.
9. Removed Without Letter.
10. Where new address is known has the Pastor been Notified?

11. Withdrawn.
12. Expelled.

II. *Sunday Schools and Religious Instruction*

1. Number and Condition of Schools.
2. Number of Sermons Preached by the Pastor to the Children.
3. Other Religious Instruction conducted:
   (*a*) with Children; (*b*) with Adults; (*c*) Teacher Training Classes.
4. Extent to which Sunday School Roll has been utilized for Pastoral Visitation.

III. *Pastoral Labor*

1. Number of Pastoral Visits.
2. Other Items.

IV. *Benevolent Collections this Quarter*

1. Board of Foreign Missions.
2. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.
3. Freedmen's Aid Society.
4. Board of Sunday Schools.
5. Education.
   a. Public Educational Collection. *b.* Children's Day Fund. *c.* Conference Educational Collection.
6. American Bible Society.
7. Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals.
8. General Deaconess Board.
9. City Missionary or Church Extension Society.
10. Other Objects.

V. *Subscribers for Periodicals*

[NOTE.—To be reported only at Fourth Quarterly Conference.]

1. ..... Christian Advocate.
2. Methodist Review.
3. Sunday School Journal.
4. Sunday School Advocate.
5. The Classmate.
6. Epworth Herald.
7. Other Periodicals.

.....*Preacher in Charge.*

3. *Special Restrictions*

¶ 184. No Pastor shall engage an Evangelist other than one of his own Conference appointed by the Bishop, or an Evangelist at Large (see ¶ 208, § 4; 209), without first obtaining the written consent of his District Superintendent.

¶ 185. No preaching place shall be discontinued in the intervals between the sessions of the Annual Conference without the consent and advice of the Quarterly Conference and of the District Superintendent; and if thus discontinued, the names of the members shall be transferred to such contiguous Classes as the members may select.

CHAPTER VI

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

¶ 186. Any Minister who has been in effective relation to any Annual Conference or Conferences for ten consecutive years may have a leave of absence for one year without losing his relationship as an effective minister. This is to permit travel, study, rest, etc. This leave of absence may be granted by the Bishop

on vote of the Annual Conference to which the Minister belongs. It shall not be granted to any man more frequently than one year in seven.

CHAPTER VII

SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

¶ 187. A Supernumerary Minister is one who, because of impaired health, or other equally sufficient reason, is temporarily unable to perform full work. This relation shall not be granted for more than five years in succession except by a two-thirds vote of the Conference, upon recommendation of the Committee on Conference Relations, and a statement of the reasons for such recommendation. He may receive an appointment, or be left without one, according to the judgment of the Annual Conference of which he is a Member; and he shall be subject to all the limitations of the Discipline in respect to reappointment and continuance in the same Charge that apply to Effective Ministers. In case he has no Pastoral Charge he shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership, in the place where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. Should he reside beyond the bounds of his Annual Conference, he shall forward to it annually a certificate similar to that required of a Retired Minister, and in case of failure to do so the Annual Conference may locate him without his consent. He shall have no claim on the Conference funds except by vote of the Conference; such claim to be paid out of the necessitous fund.

CHAPTER VIII

RETIRED MINISTERS

¶ 188. Every Retired Minister, who is not employed as Pastor of a Charge, shall have a seat in the Quarterly Conference, and all the privileges of membership in the Church where he resides. He shall report to the fourth Quarterly Conference and to the Pastor all Marriages solemnized and all Baptisms administered. If he reside without the bounds of the Conference of which he is a Member, he shall forward annually to his Conference a certificate of his Christian and Ministerial conduct, together with an account of the number and circumstances of his family, signed by the District Superintendent of the District or the Pastor of the Charge within whose bounds he resides, without which the Conference shall not be required to allow his claim, and may, after due notice and due form and record of trial, locate him without his consent.

CHAPTER IX

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

¶ 189. District Superintendents are to be chosen and appointed by the Bishops. ¶¶ 207, 208.

¶ 190. The duties of a District Superintendent are:

§ 1. To travel throughout his District.

§ 2. In the absence of a Bishop to take charge of all the Traveling Ministers, Local Preachers, and Exhorters in his District, as the Discipline directs.

§ 3. To change the appointments of the Preachers in his District, if necessary, during the interval between the sessions of the Conference, in the absence of a Bishop.

§ 4. To preside in the District Conference in the absence of a Bishop. ¶ 99.

§ 5. To be present as far as practicable at all the Quarterly Meetings, and at each to call together the Quarterly Conference to transact the business assigned to it by the Discipline; provided, however, that he may either combine the second and third Quarterly Conferences or may omit them, as may seem best, after consultation with the Pastor.

§ 6. To issue Licenses and to renew them, in accordance with the action of the District or Quarterly Conferences. ¶ 220, § 1.

§ 7. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church in his District.

§ 8. To see that all Charters, Deeds, and other conveyances of Church property in his District conform strictly to the Discipline and to the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated.

§ 9. To see that all Church property is well insured.

§ 10. To promote by all proper means the interests of Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, Freedmen's Aid, Education, Sunday Schools, Conference Claimants, Epworth Leagues, Junior Epworth League Chapters, Temperance, and Ladies' Aid Societies, to administer the rules of the Church as to these and other benevolent causes, and to secure conformity thereto on the part of both Pastors and Quarterly Conferences and to report in

open Conference whether or not the provisions of the Discipline for the support of the various benevolences of the Church have been carried out in his District. (¶¶ 319-337, 410.)

§ 11. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionment for the Episcopal Fund has been paid in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

§ 12. To inquire carefully in every Charge if the apportionments for the expenses of the General Conference and other general expenses of the Church have been paid.

§ 13. To report to the Annual Conference the condition and statistics of the literary and theological institutions located in his District, and under the care of our Church; and at the last Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge to ask the questions set forth in ¶ 468, § 2.

§ 14. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the rules respecting the instruction of children, including instruction in Temperance, have been observed.

§ 15. To inquire carefully at each Quarterly Conference if the provisions for the *pro rata* division of the several claims for Ministerial Support have been observed. ¶¶ 320-333, 574.

§ 16. To see in his District that every part of our Discipline is enforced.

§ 17. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in a District or Quarterly Conference, subject to an appeal to the President of the next Annual Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference. ¶¶ 264, 313, §§ 13, 14.

§ 18. To attend the Bishop when he is present in

the District, and when he is absent to give him by letter all necessary information as to the state of the District.

§ 19. To furnish to the Board of Foreign Missions and to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, prior to the annual meetings of the said Boards, a written statement of the condition of the Missions under his care and of their pecuniary needs.

§ 20. To direct the attention of candidates for the Ministry to the advantages of a thorough training in the literary and theological schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also to direct those who are admitted on Trial in the Annual Conference to the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops.

§ 21. To explain to Preachers on Trial, as well as to those who are to be proposed for reception on Trial, that the Annual Conference may refuse to admit them to Full Membership without doing them any wrong.

¶ **191.** If any Pastor absent himself from his Charge the District Superintendent shall fill his place, if possible, with another Preacher, who shall be paid for his labors out of the allowance of the absent Pastor, and in proportion thereto.

¶ **192.** A District Superintendent shall not employ a Preacher who has been rejected by the previous Annual Conference, unless the Conference give him authority to do so.

¶ **193.** A District Superintendent or a Preacher acting under the authority of the District Superintendent may organize a local Church by calling together the persons interested, receiving them into the Church as preparatory members, or by letter, or on profession of faith from other denominations; and

by appointing Class Leaders, Stewards, and such other Church officers as may be necessary for the initial period of the Charge, until it is in condition to be more fully organized in the regular way according to the Book of Discipline.

CHAPTER X

MISSIONARY BISHOPS

¶ 194. A Missionary Bishop is a Bishop elected for a specified Foreign Mission field, with full Episcopal powers, but with Episcopal jurisdiction limited to the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

¶ 195. A Missionary Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, as is a General Superintendent, and shall receive his support from the Episcopal Fund, as authorized by the General Conference.

¶ 196. A Missionary Bishop is not, in the meaning of the Discipline, a General Superintendent.

¶ 197. The election of a Missionary Bishop carries with it his assignment to a specified Foreign Mission field, and such Bishop cannot be made a General Superintendent except by a distinct election to that office.

¶ 198. When two or more Missionary Bishops are located in the same Foreign Mission field they shall have coördinate authority.

¶ 199. A Missionary Bishop is not subordinate to the General Superintendents, but is of coördinate authority in the field to which he is appointed. In the practical application of this coördinate au-

thority, when the General Superintendents are making their assignments to the Conferences, any Missionary Bishop who may be in the United States shall sit with them when his field is under consideration; and arrangements shall be made so that once in every quadrennium, and not oftener unless a serious emergency arises, every Mission over which a Missionary Bishop has jurisdiction shall be administered conjointly by a General Superintendent and the Missionary Bishop. In case of a difference of judgment between them the existing status shall continue, unless overruled by the General Superintendents, who shall have power to decide finally.

¶ **200.** The names of the Missionary Bishops shall be printed in the Book of Discipline and the Methodist Hymnal below the names of the Bishops, under the title, "Missionary Bishops."

¶ **201.** A Missionary Bishop shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board of Foreign Missions and in his field shall coöperate with the Board precisely as a General Superintendent is expected to coöperate with said Board in a Foreign Mission field over which he has Episcopal charge.

¶ **202.** When a Missionary Bishop, by death or for other cause, ceases to perform Episcopal duty for the foreign field to which he was assigned by the General Conference, the General Superintendents shall at once take supervision of said field.

¶ **203.** The transfer of a Preacher from a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop to a Conference under the Episcopal supervision of a General Superintendent, or from a Conference under the Episcopal Supervision of a General Superintendent to a field within the jurisdiction of a Missionary Bishop,

shall require mutual agreement between the two Bishops; and a similar agreement shall be required between the two Bishops having charge when the proposed transfer is between two foreign fields over which there are Missionary Bishops.

CHAPTER XI

BISHOPS

I. How Constituted

¶ 204. A Bishop shall be constituted by the election of the General Conference and the laying on of the hands of three Bishops, or at least of one Bishop and two Elders.

¶ 205. If by death, or otherwise, there be no Bishop remaining in our Church, the General Conference shall elect a Bishop, and the Elders, or any three of them who shall be appointed by the General Conference for that purpose, shall consecrate him according to the Ritual.

II. Amenability

¶ 206. A Bishop is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, which also shall have power to order the manner of a trial.

III. Duties

¶ 207. The duties of a Bishop are:

§ 1. To preside in the Annual Conferences.

§ 2. To form the Districts according to his judgment.

§ 3. To fix the appointments of the Preachers under the provisions and limitations stated in ¶ 208.

§ 4. To fix within their own Conferences the Quarterly Conference membership of all Ministers who are left without appointment to attend some one of our schools.

§ 5. In the interval between the sessions of the Annual Conference, to change the appointments of the Preachers, as necessity may require and the Discipline direct.

§ 6. To travel through the Connection at large.

§ 7. To oversee the spiritual and temporal business of the Church.

§ 8. To preside in the District Conference.

§ 9. To consecrate Bishops, and Ordain Elders and Deacons.

§ 10. To decide all Questions of Law involved in proceedings pending in an Annual Conference, subject to appeal to the General Conference. But in all cases the application of law shall be with the Conference.

¶ 208. The following provisions and limitations shall be observed by the Bishop when fixing the appointments:

§ 1. He shall appoint Preachers to Pastoral Charges annually after consultation with the Superintendents of the Districts in which such charges are located.

§ 2. He shall not allow a District Superintendent to preside in the same District more than six consecutive years, nor more than six years in any consecutive twelve. Nevertheless, if in any case the term of six years shall expire in the interval between

the sessions of the Annual Conference, he may continue him until the next session, provided the time shall not be more than six months. But District Superintendents in either Missions or Mission Conferences in foreign lands may be appointed to the same District for more than six consecutive years.

§ 3. He may make the following appointments annually:

(1) The Corresponding Secretaries, Assistant Corresponding Secretaries, and Recording Secretaries of our Connectional Benevolent Boards and Societies.

(2) The Publishing Agents at New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.

(3) The Editors and Assistant Editors at New York, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, San Francisco, Portland, New Orleans, and Athens, Tenn., and the Editor of *Zion's Herald*.

(4) Chaplains in the Army and Navy, and to Prisons, Reformatories, Sanatoriums, and Charitable Institutions.

(5) Preachers for Seamen.

(6) Ministers in the service of the American Bible Society, or of any State Bible Society auxiliary thereto; or of the Sunday League of America.

(7) The Presidents, Principals, and Teachers of institutions of learning under our care.

(8) The Secretaries and Superintendents of City Missions.

§ 4. *If requested by an Annual Conference*, he may appoint:

(1) An Agent to travel throughout such Con-

ference for the purpose of distributing Tracts.

(2) An Agent or Agents to promote the cause of Temperance.

(3) Instructors in Institutions of Learning not under our care.

(4) An Agent or Agents for the benefit of our Institutions of Learning.

(5) An Agent for the German Publishing Fund.

(6) Agents for other benevolent institutions.

(7) Editors of unofficial Papers or Magazines published in the interest of the Methodist Episcopal Church; provided, that in no such case shall the Church incur any financial responsibility.

(8) A Bishop may appoint one or more members of an Annual Conference to do evangelistic work on Charges or in neglected territory when requested to do so by the Annual Conference, two thirds of the members thereof present and voting. Members of the Conference appointed to do this shall be Conference Evangelists, they shall labor under the direction of the District Superintendents; provided that the evangelistic work done on any Charge shall be done with the consent of the Pastor. It shall be the duty of each Conference Evangelist, at the end of the Conference year, to make a full written report to his Annual Conference concerning his meetings, employment of his time, results and compensation.

IV. Powers

¶ 209. The Board of Bishops may appoint a limited number of members of Annual Conferences, who shall be Evangelists-at-large. It shall be the duty of each Evangelist-at-large, at the end of the Conference year, to make a full report to his Annual Conference concerning his meetings, employment of his time, results and compensation.

¶ 210, § 1. There shall be a permanent Commission on Course of Study to be appointed by the Board of Bishops and to consist of two Bishops, two Educators, two other Ministers, and the Book Editor, *ex officio.*

§ 2. This Commission shall prescribe the Courses of Study upon which those applying for License to Preach, for Orders as Local Preachers, and for Reception on Trial, respectively, shall be examined; also, a Course of Study for Local Preachers extending through four years; and a Conference Course of Study extending through four years to be pursued by those who have been received on Trial in the Annual Conference, and it shall bring its recommendation as to the constitution of these courses and the texts to be used to the Board of Bishops for final approval. It may also provide a post-graduate Course of Study for use in the Annual Conferences.

§ 3. This Commission shall coöperate in every possible manner with the Conference Board of Examiners, giving such assistance as may be desired in directing and aiding students in their study, in the matter of the plans and methods of examination, and in any other way that will help to make these courses an effective means of training.

¶ 211. A Bishop may leave without appointment

a Preacher on Trial or a Member of an Annual Conference who desires to attend any of our literary or theological seminaries, whenever he shall be requested to do so by the Annual Conference and it shall seem to him expedient; provided, however, that the time thus spent in school shall not count on that required for Trial in the Annual Conference, except when at least two full years shall have been spent in regular work under appointment by a District Superintendent who, together with the Quarterly Conference, certifies to the efficiency of his work. A preacher thus left without appointment may be employed as a supply in another Conference by a District Superintendent without being transferred.

¶ 212. Bishops are relieved from the duty of investigating and reporting upon charges of erroneous teaching in our theological schools; but when charges of that nature are made to, or laid before them, they may refer the same without action thereon to the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member for such proceeding as such Conference may deem appropriate in the premises. If, however, the Professor be a layman, the charges shall be sent to his Pastor and he shall be brought to trial according to the provisions of ¶ 256 of the Discipline. But in case the compaints affect the manner of teaching, or personal fitness, and not doctrinal soundness, the Bishops, after due consideration, shall communicate their judgment in the case to the governing board of the school directly concerned.

¶ 213. A Bishop, when he judges it necessary, may unite two or more Pastoral Charges for Quarterly Conference purposes, without affecting their separate financial interests or pastoral relations.

¶ 214. If a Bishop cease from traveling at large among the people without the consent of the General Conference he shall not thereafter exercise, in any degree, the Episcopal Office in our Church.

¶ 215. In case there be no Bishop to travel at large through the Districts and exercise the Episcopal Office, on account of death or otherwise, the Districts shall be regulated in every respect, ordination excepted, by the Annual Conferences and the District Superintendents in the interval of the sessions of the General Conference.

CHAPTER XII

RETIRED BISHOPS

I. General Superintendents

¶ 216, § 1. A General Superintendent who has reached the age of seventy years may be released both from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from that of residential supervision, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops that he so elects; and when a General Superintendent has been released, in this manner, the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the Book Committee and to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A General Superintendent, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

§ 3. A General Superintendent at any age and for

any reason deemed sufficient by the General Conference, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large, and from residential supervision.

II. Missionary Bishops

¶ 217, § 1. A Missionary Bishop who has reached the age of seventy years may be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected, by giving notice in writing to the Board of Bishops, the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Book Committee; and when a Missionary Bishop has been released in this manner, the Board of Bishops shall report the fact to the next General Conference.

§ 2. A Missionary Bishop, at the close of the General Conference nearest his seventy-third birthday, shall be released from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

§ 3. A Missionary Bishop, at any age and for any reason deemed sufficient by the General Conference, may be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the Foreign Mission field for which he was elected.

III. General Provisions

¶ 218, § 1. A General Superintendent who has been released from the obligation to travel through the Connection at large in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions shall not preside thereafter over any Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission, nor make appointments, nor preside at the Gen-

eral Conference, but may take the chair temporarily in any Conference if requested to do so by the Bishop presiding. He shall be an advisory member of the Board of Bishops.

§ 2. When a Missionary Bishop is released in any of the cases aforesaid, he shall not preside thereafter in any Conference nor make appointments.

§ 3. A General Superintendent or a Missionary Bishop who has been released under any of the foregoing provisions may continue to exercise all the rights and privileges which pertain to the Episcopal office, except as herein otherwise provided.

§ 4. The point of time midway between two General Conferences shall be deemed to fall at the division between May 15th and May 16th of the second calendar year following the year of the regular session of the General Conference.

§ 5. These provisions concerning the retirement of Bishops shall become effective at the beginning of the General Conference of 1916.

PART IV

LOCAL PREACHERS, EXHORTERS, DEACONESSES

I. LOCAL PREACHERS
II. EXHORTERS
III. DEACONESSES

CHAPTER I

LOCAL PREACHERS

¶ **219.** Wherever a District Conference exists, the powers hereinafter conferred on Quarterly Conferences in relation to Local Preachers and Exhorters shall be exercised only by the District Conference; but it shall not license any person to preach, nor renew the License of any person to preach or exhort, nor recommend any Local Preacher to the Annual Conference for Orders or for Recognition of Orders or for Reception on Trial, without the previous recommendation of the Quarterly Conference, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting of the Pastoral Charge of which such person or Preacher is a member, and no member of the Church shall be at liberty to preach without a license.

¶ **220.** The Quarterly Conference, where no District Conference exists, shall have authority:

§ 1. To license proper persons to preach; provided, they shall have been previously recommended by the Society of which they are members, or by the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting; shall have passed a satisfactory examination in the studies prescribed for candidates for License to Preach; shall have been examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrine and Discipline, and also shall have answered satisfactorily the question, "Will you wholly abstain from the use of tobacco?"

§ 2. To examine Local Preachers in the Course of Study prescribed for them; to inquire into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of each by name, and to renew

their licenses annually when in the judgment of the Conference their gifts, grace, and usefulness, and their faithfulness and proficiency in study, warrant such renewal. In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the traveling ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular courses of study in our theological seminaries or in universities or colleges approved by the University Senate.

§ 3. To recommend to the Annual Conference Local Preachers who are suitable candidates for Deacons' or Elders' Orders (¶¶ 176, § 1; 179, § 1), for Recognition of Orders (¶ 165, §§ 1, 2), or for Reception on Trial (¶ 157, § 1); such candidates having been previously examined in the presence of the Quarterly Conference on the subject of Doctrine and Discipline.

§ 4. To try, suspend, deprive of Ministerial Office and Credentials, expel, or acquit any Local Preacher of the Circuit or Station against whom Charges shall have been preferred. ¶¶ 270-277.

NOTE.—For the Licensing, Amenability, and Appeal of Local Preachers in Missions in the United States and Territories, see ¶ 278, §§ 1, 2.

¶ 221, § 1. Every Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, not having a Pastoral Charge, shall be a member of, and amenable to, the Quarterly Conference where he resides. And when he shall change his residence he shall procure from the Pastor of the Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and shall present it to the Pastor of the Charge to which he removes. If he neglect to do this he shall not be recognized nor use his

office as a Local Preacher in the Charge to which he has removed; and he shall continue to be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge from which he has removed, which, if the neglect be long continued, after due notice may try him for persistent disobedience to the order of the Church, and upon conviction thereof deprive him of Ministerial Office and Credentials.

§ 2. If a Local Preacher be appointed to a Pastoral Charge, he shall procure from the Pastor of the Charge from which he removes, or from the District Superintendent, a Certificate of his Official Standing and of Dismissal, and at its next session shall present it to the Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which he has been appointed, and his Church and his Quarterly Conference membership shall be in that Charge.

§ 3. An unordained Local Preacher, while serving as a regularly appointed Pastor of a Charge, shall be authorized to administer the rite of Baptism, and when the laws of the State permit, to solemnize matrimony.

§ 4. Whenever a Preacher is located or discontinued by an Annual Conference, he shall thereupon hold his Quarterly Conference membership where he resides at the time of location or discontinuance.

§ 5. Whenever a Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, shall sever his relation with the Methodist Episcopal Church by removal therefrom by note of recommendation or withdrawal or in any other way, he shall deposit his credentials with the proper authorities.

¶ 222. The District Superintendents and the Pastors are required to arrange the appointments, wher-

ever it is practicable, so as to give the Local Preachers regular and systematic employment on the Sabbath.

¶ 223. Every Local Preacher shall be enrolled in a Class, and meet with it. He shall make to the District or Quarterly Conference a report of his labors, as follows: 1. Number of Sermons preached. 2. Number of Prayer Meetings attended. 3. Number of Class Meetings attended. 4. Number of Sunday Schools attended. 5. Number of Funerals conducted. 6. Miscellaneous Items. He shall also report (1) the Number of Marriages solemnized, with the names of persons married; and (2) the Number of Baptisms administered, with the names and ages of the persons baptized, that due entry may be made by the Pastor in the Church Records.

¶ 224. Whenever a Local Preacher fills the place of a Pastor, with the approbation of the District Superintendent, he shall be paid for his time a sum proportioned to the allowance of the Pastor, which sum shall be paid by the Charge at the next Quarterly Meeting, if the Pastor whose place he filled was either sick or necessarily absent; and in other cases, out of the allowance of the Pastor.

¶ 225. If a Local Preacher be distressed in his temporal circumstances on account of his service in a Pastoral Charge, he may apply to the Quarterly Conference, which may give him such relief as is judged proper, after the claims for ministerial support shall have been paid.

¶ 226. Authority is hereby given to the Annual Conferences to take such measures as they may deem wise to create a Permanent Endowment Fund for Retired Local Preachers who may have served as Pastors for fifteen consecutive years or more, and for the

widows and minor children of such deceased Local Preachers. The Annual Conferences shall make such rules and regulations for administering the funds and distributing the income as each may determine. (Appendix, ¶ 576.)

CHAPTER II

EXHORTERS

¶ 227. An Exhorter shall be constituted by the recommendation of the Class of which he is a member, or of the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge, and a License signed by the Pastor.

¶ 228. The duties of an Exhorter are, to hold Meetings for Prayer and Exhortation wherever opportunity is afforded, subject to the direction of the Pastor; to attend all the sessions of the District and Quarterly Conferences, and to present a written report to the same. He shall be subject to an annual examination of character in the Quarterly Conference, and a renewal of License, to be signed by the President thereof.

CHAPTER III

DEACONESSES

I. A Deaconess

¶ 229, § 1. A Deaconess is a woman who has been led by the Spirit and by the providence of God to forego all other pursuits in life that she may devote herself wholly to the Christlike service of doing good;

and who, after having received this divine call, has been trained and tested during a probation of at least two years, and after such preparation has been duly licensed and consecrated.

§ 2. No vow of perpetual service is required of a Deaconess; nevertheless, except for imperative reasons, Deaconess service should be considered a life-work. The Deaconess renders a free-will service, and as long as she is in good standing is entitled to a suitable support. As her service is voluntary she may withdraw at any time, but she shall give reasonable notice of such intention.

§ 3. The single aim and controlling purpose of the Deaconess is to minister, as Jesus did, to the wants of a suffering, sorrowing, and sin-laden world. Her work is to visit the sick, to pray with the dying, to comfort the sorrowing, to seek the wandering, to save the sinning, to relieve the poor, to care for the orphan, and to take up other Christlike service.

II. General Deaconess Board

¶ 230. *Incorporation and Functions.* § 1. For the promotion and general supervision of Deaconess work throughout the Church there shall be a Board known as the General Deaconess Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This Board, duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York and having its headquarters in the City of Buffalo, shall have general supervision of all Deaconess work in the Church and control of all Deaconesses. The General Deaconess Board shall be composed of twenty-one members, of whom three shall be Bishops. All members shall

be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. There shall be at least one member from each General Conference District. Any vacancy in the Board which may occur during the quadrennium shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 2. The General Deaconess Board, on request of an Annual Conference through its Deaconess Board, shall have power to authorize the establishment of a Deaconess institution. The General Deaconess Board shall satisfy itself that there is need of the proposed institution in the locality designated; that the site selected is suitable for the work intended; that it would not be likely to affect unfavorably any existing Institution; that there is good prospect of its adequate support, and that its property, of whatever form, is not unduly encumbered.

§ 3. The General Deaconess Board shall establish a standard for entrance into training schools, provided such requirement shall be equivalent to a High School course, shall prescribe the Course of Study and shall have authority to determine and settle all questions arising between Institutions and individuals. It shall promote the interest of Preachers and people in this work, fix the maximum allowance for Deaconesses, approve general rules for the government of both Institutions and Deaconesses, prescribe a distinctive garb for Deaconesses, determine the allowance for retired Deaconesses, and perform such other duties as the work may demand.

§ 4. The General Deaconess Board may authorize such steps as seem wise in order to enlist a larger number of trained women, and set them at the increasing tasks devolving upon the Church in community service, work among immigrants, and the di-

rection of religious education. The Board shall endeavor to cooperate with other Boards of the Church which may be interested in like opportunities.

¶ 231. *Officers.* § 1. The Board shall elect its own officers.

§ 2. The Board shall elect quadrennially a Corresponding Secretary who shall be its executive officer.

§ 3. Any vacancy may be filled by the Executive Committee until the next meeting of the Board.

¶ 232. *Maintenance.* § 1. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to see that his Charge makes an Annual Contribution for the support of the General Deaconess Fund.

§ 2. This contribution may be paid to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference or forwarded directly to the General Deaconess Board.

III. Annual Conference Deaconess Board

¶ 233, § 1. A Conference Deaconess Board, consisting of nine members, of whom at least three shall be women, shall be appointed by each Annual Conference. The members shall serve for three years and the election so arranged that three members shall be chosen each year.

§ 2. The Conference Deaconess Board shall have oversight of all Deaconess work within the bounds of the Conference. It shall have authority to issue Certificates of Recognition to probationers and renew annually the same; to license Deaconesses and approve annually their standing as Deaconesses; to transfer Deaconesses on the recommendation of a Deaconess Institution or one of the forms of administra-

tion; and to approve the assignments of Deaconesses to their respective fields of labor made by local Boards of Management. It shall encourage and promote Deaconess work within the limits of the Conference. It shall see that all charters, deeds, and other conveyances of the property of Deaconess Institutions conform strictly to the Discipline, and the laws, usages, and forms of the State or Territory within which such property is situated. It shall see that all property is well insured.

§ 3. The appointment of the Deaconesses to their respective fields of labor shall be subject to the approval of the Annual Conference Deaconess Board.

§ 4. The Conference Deaconess Board shall secure from each Deaconess Institution within the bounds of the Conference a yearly report, giving the name, address, and employment of each Deaconess connected with the Institution, the amount of money received and expended, and such other information as may be desired. Blanks for this purpose shall be furnished by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 5. The Conference Deaconess Board shall report each year to the Annual Conference; this Report shall include the amount of the contribution of Churches in the Conference to the General Deaconess Board. It shall also report annually to the General Deaconess Board on such matters and in such form as that Board may indicate.

§ 6. The Conference Deaconess Board shall arrange, when practicable, for an anniversary of Deaconess work during the session of the Annual Conference.

§ 7. The actions of the Conference Deaconess Board shall be subject to the approval of both the Annual Conference and the General Deaconess Board.

IV. Deaconess Institutions

¶ 234, § 1. A Deaconess Institution is a home, school, hospital, or other organization, permanently established, administered by Deaconesses, or maintained for the care or education of Deaconesses, or for the promotion of the Deaconess work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. No Institution for the prosecution or maintenance of any form of Deaconess work shall be recognized as a Deaconess Institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church until it has been approved by the Annual Conference upon recommendation of its Deaconess Board, and authorized by the General Deaconess Board.

§ 3. All property for Deaconess Institutions shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and this may be done by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Methodist Deaconess Association, the German Central Deaconess Board, or by a local Board of Trustees. In whatever name property is held, all deeds of conveyance shall contain the clause, "To be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church."

§ 4. Training Schools duly recognized as Deaconess Institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be as free to secure students from the whole Church as are our other educational institutions.

§ 5. Each Deaconess Institution shall report to the Conference Deaconess Board at least one month before the meeting of the Annual Conference such information as may be requested by either the Conference Deaconess Board or the General Deaconess Board.

V. The Probationary Deaconess

¶ 235, § 1. Every candidate is urged to take the full course in one of the duly recognized training schools before presenting herself for active service.

§ 2. The probationer's Certificate of Recognition may be given by the Conference Deaconess Board only to a candidate who meets the following requirements and is recommended by a duly recognized Deaconess Institution:

(1) She must be recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member.

(2) She must present a satisfactory health certificate, according to form prescribed by the General Deaconess Board.

(3) She must be a graduate of a duly recognized training school or from a registered hospital training school of our Church; or have its equivalent in hospital and training school; or be recommended by the concurrent action of one of the Forms of Administration and the General Deaconess Board.

§ 3. The probationary period shall be at least two full Conference years after receiving Probationer's Certificate of Recognition.

§ 4. The renewal of the Certificate of Recognition of a probationer is granted annually by the Conference Deaconess Board, upon recommendation of the Deaconess Institution with which she is connected.

§ 5. Probationers may wear a distinctive garb, but only in actual service.

VI. The Licensed Deaconess—Regulations

¶ 236, § 1. The Deaconess License may be given by the Conference Deaconess Board only to a candi-

date who meets the following requirements and is recommended by a duly recognized Deaconess Institution:

(1) She must complete the term of probation, be unmarried and over twenty-three years of age, and be recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member.

(2) She must present a satisfactory health certificate, according to the form prescribed by the General Deaconess Board.

(3) She must fulfill the Disciplinary religious and educational requirements to the satisfaction of the Conference Deaconess Board. A Certificate of Graduation from a duly recognized training school or from a registered hospital training school of our Church, shall be accepted by the Conference Deaconess Board as satisfactory evidence of her having met the educational requirements, and she shall secure from the training school or Deaconess Institution with which she has been connected a recommendation as to her character and her fitness for Deaconess work.

§ 2. When a woman, having met the above requirements, is licensed, she is entitled to Consecration as a Deaconess, according to the Order of Service prescribed by the Discipline. The Bishop shall satisfy himself that the candidate for Consecration has fulfilled all the Disciplinary requirements.

§ 3. A woman thus duly licensed and consecrated is a Deaconess of the Methodist Episcopal Church and may be employed anywhere and in any form of work, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Discipline and of the General Deaconess Board. Each Deaconess shall be enrolled as a member in a Deaconess Institution to which she is responsible and to

which she must report at regular intervals. She shall wear the prescribed garb when on duty. The wearing of this garb by any woman who is not a Deaconess shall be regarded as a violation of our Order and Discipline.

§ 4. For the continuance of the Deaconess in her vocation it is necessary that she be approved annually by the Conference Deaconess Board upon recommendation of the Deaconess Institution with which she is connected.

§ 5. A Deaconess may be transferred from one Conference to another by and with the consent of the two Conference Deaconess Boards, on recommendation of the Deaconess Institutions or Forms of Administration concerned. The change of a Deaconess from one Conference to another to meet a pressing emergency may be recorded as a transfer when approved by both Conference Deaconess Boards. The transfer shall be consummated when a Deaconess has been accepted and her name placed upon the records of the Conference to which transfer is made.

§ 6. A Deaconess may have her membership changed from one Institution to another within the bounds of the same Annual Conference by the agreement of the Institutions concerned and the approval of the Conference Deaconess Board. A Deaconess employed by a Church shall be under the direction of the Pastor of that Church. A Deaconess shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference of the Church of which she is a member, when approved by said Quarterly Conference for membership therein.

§ 7. A Deaconess on leave of absence is one who at her request and for reasons sufficient to the Deaconess Institution with which she is connected, and the

Annual Conference Board, is released from active duty for a limited time.

§ 8. A Deaconess who has resigned or has been discontinued shall return her license and Certificate of Consecration to the Conference Deaconess Board having jurisdiction in her case, and shall cease to wear the Deaconess garb.

§ 9. A Deaconess who has faithfully performed her duties may request from the Conference Deaconess Board a Certificate of honorable discharge. This Certificate may be granted by the Conference Deaconess Board upon recommendation of the Deaconess Institution with which she is connected, provided she presents her License and Certificate of Consecration. Should she desire to have these returned to her, the President of the Conference Deaconess Board shall inscribe on each the fact and date of the discharge. A Deaconess who has thus been honorably discharged may be restored and re-licensed by any Conference Deaconess Board, without probation or examination in the Course of Study, provided she present a recommendation from her Quarterly Conference and a satisfactory certificate of health. And, provided further, that she have the approval of a Deaconess Institution.

VII. The Retired Deaconess—Her Support

¶ 237, § 1. A Deaconess when unable to continue her regular work on account of age, loss of health, or other disability, may be retired by the General Deaconess Board on recommendation of the Deaconess Institution with which she is connected, provided she has given at least ten years of service to the Deaconess work, including her term of probation.

§ 2. There shall be a Deaconess Retirement Fund which shall be controlled and administered by the General Deaconess Board, and which the Board shall seek to increase by contributions, bequests and otherwise.

§ 3. Every Retired Deaconess shall have a claim upon the Retirement Fund. This claim shall be proportionate to the number of years she has been in active service, including the years of probation.

§ 4. The amount of the allowance to Retired Deaconesses must depend upon the income of the General Deaconess Board.

VIII. Deaconess Relief Fund

¶ 238. The various forms of administration shall make suitable provision for Deaconesses during temporary disability.

IX. Deaconess Work in Europe

¶ 239, § 1. In those parts of Europe where the Deaconess work is legally incorporated with an Inspector appointed by the Annual Conference, any of the foregoing provisions not compatible with the articles of such legal corporation shall be inoperative.

§ 2. All European Deaconess work shall be under the general supervision of the General Deaconess Board.

X. Deaconess Work in Mission Fields

¶ 240, § 1. In Mission fields, under the supervision of General Superintendents, there may be a Board

composed of the Superintendents in charge and four other members to be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected quadrennially by the General Conference.

§ 2. In a Mission field, under the supervision of a Missionary Bishop, there may be a Board composed of the Missionary Bishop of that field and four other members, two at large and two from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, to be nominated by the said Missionary Bishop and elected quadrennially by the General Conference.

§ 3. These Boards shall have general supervision within their respective fields, but shall be subject to the General Deaconess Board.

§ 4. Vacancies shall be filled by the Bishop having jurisdiction over the field where the vacancy occurs.

PART V
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

I. TRIAL OF A BISHOP
II. TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP
III. TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE
IV. TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL
V. TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
VI. TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER
VII. APPEAL OF A BISHOP
VIII. APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
IX. RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS
X. APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER
XI. APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT OF APPEALS
XII. GENERAL DIRECTIONS

CHAPTER I

TRIAL OF A BISHOP

NOTE.—Throughout Part V of the Discipline—Judicial Administration—the term "Immorality" is used to include any violation of the Moral Law.

I. Investigation

¶ **241.** If a Bishop shall be accused of any violation of the moral law in the interval between sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendent within whose District the offense is said to have been committed shall call to his aid four Traveling Elders, which five Ministers shall carefully inquire into the case; and if, in their judgment, there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they, or a majority of them, shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case—unless such charges have already been prepared—shall send a copy of the same to the accused, and shall give notice thereof to one of the Bishops, furnishing him also with a copy of the charges. The Bishop so notified shall convene a Committee of Investigation to be composed of the Triers of Appeals, to be appointed as hereinafter provided, of four neighboring Conferences, over which Committee a Bishop shall preside. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number of the Committee below thirteen. The presiding Bishop shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep a correct record of the proceedings and of the testimony. The Committee thus constituted shall

have full power to investigate the charges in the case, and if it finds them sustained, shall suspend the accused from all ministerial functions and Church privileges until the ensuing General Conference. The President and Secretary shall sign the records when properly approved, and the President shall transmit the same, including the charges, specifications, documents, and evidence, to the General Conference, on which, and such other evidence as may be admitted, the case shall finally be determined. Additional charges and specifications may be presented to the General Conference; provided, the accused has been given due notice of the same.

¶ 242. In case of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose District the alleged offense is said to have occurred shall take with him two Traveling Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Bishop so offending. If he persists in his imprudence, the matter shall be investigated in the manner provided in ¶ 241, or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 243. If it be alleged that a violation of the moral law or an imprudence has been committed beyond the bounds of any District, the District Superintendent within the bounds of whose District the Bishop resides shall proceed as hereinbefore provided.

¶ 244. If a Bishop be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 241, or he may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 245. Complaint against the administration of a Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice of such complaint.

II. Trial

¶ 246. When a Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in due form, appointing for this purpose a Select Number of its own Members, who shall be Ministers, to consist of not more than seventeen, nor fewer than eleven, the accused having the right of challenge for cause. Over this court a Bishop shall preside, and one of the secretaries of the General Conference shall act as Secretary. The Court as thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused Bishop, and to suspend him from the functions of his office, to depose him from the Ministry, or to expel him from the Church, as it may deem his offense requires. Its findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the General Conference as hereinafter provided, and shall be reported to the General Conference for entry on its Journal; and the records of the trial shall be placed in the custody of the Secretary of the General Conference, together with all the documents in the case, for preservation with the papers of the General Conference and for use in case of appeal.

CHAPTER II

TRIAL OF A MISSIONARY BISHOP

I. Investigation

¶ 247. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of a violation of the moral law during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, the District Superintendents of the Annual Conference within which the offense is alleged to have been committed shall inquire into the same. If in their opinion the accusations appear to be well founded, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges in the case, and shall send the same to the nearest Bishop or Missionary Bishop, and a copy thereof to the accused. The said Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall call not less than nine nor more than fifteen Effective Elders, all of whom shall be Foreign Missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to form a Committee of Investigation, and a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall preside over the same. The accused shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so as not to reduce the number below seven. If this Committee shall find the charges sustained, it shall suspend the accused until the ensuing General Conference.

¶ 248. If a Missionary Bishop be accused of imprudent conduct, the District Superintendent within whose district the alleged offense is said to have occurred, shall take with him three Effective Elders, and, if in their judgment there is sufficient ground for such accusation, shall admonish the Missionary Bishop so offending. If he persist in his imprudence,

the case shall be investigated in the manner prescribed in ¶ 247, or the offender may be brought to trial before the General Conference.

¶ 249. If a Missionary Bishop be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 247 or ¶ 250.

II. Trial

¶ 250. When a Missionary Bishop has been suspended by a Committee of Investigation, or when charges against a Missionary Bishop are presented directly to the General Conference, the General Conference shall try the accused in the same manner as is prescribed for the trial of a Bishop.

¶ 251. Complaint against the administration of a Missionary Bishop may be forwarded to the General Conference, and entertained there; provided, that in its judgment he has had due notice that such complaint would be made.

CHAPTER III

TRIAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOTE.—In all matters of Judicial Administration the rights, duties and responsibilities of Members of Mission Conferences are the same as those in Annual Conferences, and the procedure shall be the same.

I. Preliminary Investigation

¶ 252, § 1. If a Member of an Annual Conference be accused of any violation of the moral law in the

interval between sessions of that body, his District Superintendent, or the Superintendent of the District within the bounds of which such acts are alleged to have taken place, shall call not less than five nor more than nine Members of the Annual Conference to investigate the same, and, if possible, bring the accused and accuser face to face. He shall preside throughout the proceedings, and shall certify and declare the judgment of the Committee.

§ 2. If the accused be a District Superintendent, three of the senior Effective Elders of his District shall inquire into the character of the allegations, and, if they deem an investigation necessary, shall call in the Superintendent of any District of the Annual Conference, who shall appoint a Committee of not less than five nor more than nine Elders of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member, to investigate the case; and he shall preside at the investigation; but in case there be only one District Superintendent in the Conference, or if the other District Superintendents be so related to the case as to make it improper for any one of them to serve, then the matter shall be reported by the three senior Effective Elders to the Bishop in Charge, who shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

§ 3. If in either case the charge be sustained, the accused shall be suspended by the Committee from all ministerial services and Church privileges until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. If in any such investigation the Committee finds that the evidence does not sustain the charge of immorality, but does show that the accused has been guilty of imprudent and unministerial conduct, it may so declare, and may suspend the offender from

all ministerial functions until the ensuing session of his Annual Conference, at which the whole case shall be disposed of as the said Conference may determine.

¶ 253. Any Member of an Annual Conference who shall hold religious service within the bounds of any Pastoral Charge, when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to hold such service, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct; and if, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he shall not refrain from such conduct, he shall be liable to charges and investigation, or trial.

¶ 254. If a Member of an Annual Conference be charged with disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶ 252, § 1. But if, after the charge is sustained, the Minister so offending shall solemnly promise the Committee of Investigation not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines in public or private, the Committee may waive suspension, that the case may be laid before the next Annual Conference, which shall determine the matter.

¶ 255. Whenever specific complaint is made in writing and signed by five responsible persons, Members or Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, charging a Teacher in one of our Theological Schools, who is a Minister, with violating his pledge to the Bishops of loyalty to our doctrine and polity, said complaint shall be lodged with the Superintendent within whose District the accused holds his Quarterly Conference membership, who shall carefully consider the same; and if in his opinion the complaint is

of sufficient gravity to require an investigation, he shall immediately proceed according to the provisions of the Discipline in ¶ 252.

¶ 256. If the Teacher referred to in ¶ 255 be a layman or a Local Preacher, the complaint shall be lodged with the Preacher in Charge of the Church to which the said Teacher belongs, who shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline for the investigation or trial of members or Local Preachers.

¶ 257. If in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, a Member of an Annual Conference fail to do the work to which he was duly appointed, except in case of sickness, serious disability, or other unavoidable circumstances, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1. If the District Superintendent fails so to do, he shall be accountable therefor to the next Annual Conference.

¶ 258. In cases of improper temper, words, or actions, the Minister so offending shall be admonished by his senior in office. Should a second transgression take place, one, two, or three Ministers are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the District Superintendent shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1.

¶ 259. When a Member of an Annual Conference fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, the District Superintendent shall appoint two judicious Members of the Church and one Minister to inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has acted dishonestly or contracted debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the case shall be disposed of according to ¶ 252, § 1.

¶ 260. Any Member of an Annual Conference residing beyond the bounds of his own Conference shall be subject to the investigation prescribed in ¶ 252, under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he resides or within which he is employed, by a Committee of Members of that Conference. If he reside or be employed within the bounds of a Mission, he shall be subject to investigation under the authority of the Superintendent of the District within which he holds his Quarterly Conference Membership or of the Superintendent of the Mission and a Committee of Members of the same. If he be the Superintendent of the Mission, the Bishop or Missionary Bishop in charge shall appoint an Elder to act in the case.

¶ 261. In all the foregoing cases the papers, including the record of the investigation, charges, evidence, and findings, shall be transmitted to the ensuing session of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member; on which papers, and on such other evidence as may be admitted, and also upon such other charges or specifications as may be presented, due notice of the same having been given to the accused, the case shall be determined.

¶ 262. An Annual Conference may entertain and try charges against its Members though no investigation upon them has been held, or though the investigation has not resulted in suspension, due notice having been given the accused.

¶ 263. When it is alleged of a Member of an Annual Conference that he is so unacceptable or inefficient so as to be no longer useful in his work, or that, without reason of impaired health of himself or his family disqualifying him for pastoral work, he engages in

secular business, his case shall be referred to a Committee of five or more Members of his Conference for inquiry; and if said Committee shall find the allegation sustained, and shall so recommend, the Conference may request him to locate. If he shall refuse, and the conditions complained of continue, the Conference, at its next session, after formal trial and conviction, may locate him without his consent. But he shall have the right of appeal to a Judicial Conference, which may restore him.

II. Maladministration

¶ 264, § 1. A Minister shall be answerable to his Conference on a charge of corrupt, negligent, or partisan administration, but not for errors in judgment. The violation of the advice concerning Divorce, in ¶ 68 of the Discipline, shall be considered an act of Maladministration.

§ 2. Errors or defects in Judicial Proceedings shall be duly considered when presented on appeal. But Errors of Law or Administration connected with investigations under ¶ 252 which are not followed by trials at Conference, and Errors of Law made by a District Superintendent in cases of appeal, are to be corrected by the President of the next Annual Conference on appeal in open session, and the Conference may also order just and suitable remedies, if injury has resulted from such errors.

§ 3. Errors of Administration not connected with Judicial Proceedings may be presented in writing to the Annual Conference, for its judgment thereon; and the Annual Conference may order just and suitable remedies when the rights of Ministers or mem-

bers of the Church have been injuriously affected by such errors.

III. Trial

¶ 265. The Annual Conference, at its discretion, may try an accused Member by one of the following methods:

§ 1. The trial, including the examination of witnesses, may be by the Conference in full session.

§ 2. The Bishop may appoint an Elder as a Commissioner to take the evidence in the case, in whole or in part; and said Commissioner shall cause a correct record of the proceedings in the case and of the evidence, signed by the witnesses respectively, to be laid before the Annual Conference; upon which evidence and such other evidence as may be admitted the case shall be determined.

§ 3. The Conference may appoint from its Members a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen, to try the accused, who shall have the right to challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of a Bishop, or of a Chairman whom the President of the Conference shall have appointed, and one or more of the Secretaries of the Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules which govern in such proceedings; and they shall make a faithful report in writing of all their proceedings, duly attested by the President and Secretary of the Select Number, to the Secretary of the Annual Conference before its final adjournment, and deliver up to him therewith the bill of charges, the evidence taken, and the decision rendered, with all documents brought into the trial.

§ 4. But if a case cannot be tried during the session for want of testimony, the Annual Conference may refer it to one of the District Superintendents, who shall proceed as directed in ¶ 252, § 1, and the Conference shall determine whether the case seems to be of such gravity as to require that the Minister be left without appointment until investigation shall be held.

¶ 266. When a Minister is tried on a charge of immorality, and the Annual Conference, or the Select Number, shall find that this charge is not sustained by the evidence, but that the Minister has been proven guilty of "high imprudence and unministerial conduct," it may declare this fact, and may by this finding reprove the offender, or may subject him to suspension, or deprivation of his Ministerial Office and Credentials.

¶ 267, § 1. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry without being expelled from the Church, he shall have his membership in the Church where he resided at the time of his deposition.

§ 2. In case any Member of an Annual Conference shall have been deposed from the Ministry or expelled from the Church for teaching publicly or privately doctrines contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, he shall not again be licensed to preach until he shall have satisfied the Conference from which he was deposed or expelled, and shall have promised in writing to desist wholly from disseminating such doctrine.

¶ 268. After a Minister shall have been tried regularly and expelled he shall have no Privileges of Society or Sacraments in our Church, without con-

trition, reformation, and confession, satisfactory to the Annual Conference by which he was expelled.

¶ **269.** When a Member of an Annual Conference is accused of immorality and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Annual Conference may permit him to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Complaints." If formal charges of immorality have been presented, he may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be, "Withdrawn under Charges"; and if thus "Withdrawn under Complaints," or "Withdrawn under Charges," his relation to the Church shall be the same as if he had been expelled.

CHAPTER IV

TRIAL OF A PREACHER ON TRIAL

¶ **270.** A Preacher on Trial in an Annual Conference, in reference to Amenability and Appeal is considered as a Local Preacher; but in his case the District Superintendent shall perform the duties which are assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the case of an accused Local Preacher.

CHAPTER V

TRIAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ **271.** When a Local Preacher, ordained or unordained, is accused of any violation of the moral law, the Preacher in Charge shall call a Committee of Investigation, consisting of three or more Local Preach-

ers, before which it shall be the duty of the accused to appear, and by which, if the charge be sustained, he shall be suspended from all Ministerial services and Church privileges until the next District or Quarterly Conference; which Conference shall try the case, and if the accused be found guilty the Conference shall suspend, deprive of ministerial office and credentials, or expel him. (¶ 220, § 4.) But a Local Preacher may be tried by a District or Quarterly Conference without preliminary investigation, provided due notice shall have been given him.

¶ 272. Should the District Conference having jurisdiction in the case of an accused Local Preacher judge it expedient to try him by a Select Number, it may appoint not less than nine nor more than fifteen of its Members for that purpose, the accused having the right of challenge for cause; which Select Number, in the presence of the President of the District Conference, or of an Elder appointed by him, and a Secretary appointed by the said Conference, shall have full power to consider and determine the case according to the rules applicable thereto; and the Secretary shall make a correct report in writing of all the proceedings and evidence to the Secretary of the District Conference, and shall deliver to him all the papers in the case.

¶ 273, § 1. In case of improper temper, words, or actions, the Local Preacher so offending shall be admonished by the Preacher in Charge. Should a second transgression take place, one or two members of the Church are to be taken as witnesses. If he continue to offend, the case shall be investigated as provided in ¶ 271, or he shall be tried at the next District or Quarterly Conference, and, if found

guilty and impenitent, he shall be expelled from the Church.

§ 2. If, on due trial by the District or Quarterly Conference, a Local Preacher be found neglectful of his duties as a Local Preacher or unacceptable in his Ministry, he may be deprived of his ministerial office; in which case, if he be ordained, the District Superintendent shall require him to deliver up his credentials, that they may be returned to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. A Local Preacher, who shall hold religious services within the bounds of a Pastoral Charge when requested by the Preacher in Charge not to do so, shall be deemed guilty of imprudent conduct, and if he persist, after admonition by the Superintendent of the District within which the offense has been committed, he may be brought to investigation or trial, either or both of which may take place in the Charge and under the proper officers of the Church where the forbidden service has been held.

¶ 274. If a Local Preacher disseminate, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or our other present existing and established standards of doctrine, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 271, 272.

NOTE.—Touching complaints against a Local Preacher for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶¶ 255, 256.

¶ 275. If a Local Preacher shall fail in business, or contract debts which he is not able to pay, the Preacher in Charge shall appoint three judicious members of the Church to inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if, in their opinion, he has behaved dishonestly,

or contracted debts without a reasonable probability of paying, the same procedure shall be observed as is prescribed in ¶¶ 271, 272.

¶ 276. If, in the judgment of the District Superintendent, a fair and impartial trial cannot be had in the Quarterly Conference where the accused holds his membership, the District Superintendent may refer the case for trial to some other Quarterly Conference within the bounds of his District.

¶ 277. If the trial is by the Quarterly Conference, the accused shall have the right of challenge for cause. If by reason of said challenge or other cause the number of the members of the Quarterly Conference present shall fall below seven, which number shall be required for a quorum in case of any such trial, the Quarterly Conference, if the District Superintendent so request, shall adjourn to a subsequent date, to be named by him, to try the case; or, the District Superintendent may refer it to some other Quarterly Conference in his District.

¶ 278, § 1. In Missions in the United States, its Territories, and insular possessions the power to try Local Preachers shall remain with the respective Quarterly Conferences; but Local Preachers so tried and convicted shall have the right of appeal to the Annual Meeting of the Mission.

§ 2. The Ministerial members of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall constitute a Judicial Conference to hear appeals of Local Preachers convicted at an Annual Meeting of a Mission; such Judicial Conference to be presided over by a Bishop.

CHAPTER VI

TRIAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER

I. Immoral Conduct

¶ 279, § 1. A member of the Church accused of a violation of the moral law shall be brought to trial.

§ 2. A member of the Church, who, after private reproof and admonition by the Pastor or Class Leader, persists in using, buying, or selling intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or who signs a petition in favor of granting a license for the sale of such liquors, or who signs a petition of consent for the sale of such liquors, or who applies for a license for the sale of such liquors, or who procures a license for the sale of such liquors, or who becomes bondsman of any person or persons engaged in such traffic, or who rents his property as a place in which, or on which, to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquors, shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, shall be expelled.

II. Imprudent Conduct

¶ 280. In cases of neglect of duties of any kind; imprudent conduct; indulging sinful tempers or words; dancing; playing at games of chance; attending theaters, horse-races, circuses, dancing parties, or patronizing dancing schools, or taking such other amusements as are obviously of misleading or questionable moral tendency; or disobedience to the order and Discipline of the Church,

on the first offense, let private reproof be given by the Pastor or Class Leader, and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and proper humiliation, the person may be borne with. On the second offense the Pastor or Class Leader may take with him one or two discreet members of the Church. On the third offense let him be brought to trial, and if found guilty and there be no sign of real humiliation, he shall be expelled.

III. Neglect of Means of Grace

¶ 281. If a member of the Church shall habitually neglect the means of grace, such as the Public Worship of God, the Lord's Supper, family and private Prayer, searching the Scriptures, Class Meetings, and Prayer Meetings, the Preacher in Charge shall visit him and explain to him the consequences if he continue his neglect. If he do not amend, he shall be brought to trial, and if found guilty of willful neglect, he shall be expelled.

IV. Causing Dissension

¶ 282. If a member of the Church shall be accused of endeavoring to sow dissension in the Church by inveighing against its Doctrines or Discipline, its Ministers or Members, or in any other manner, the person so offending shall first be reproved by the Preacher in Charge; and if he persist in such pernicious practice, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

Note.—For the method of disposing of complaints against a layman for erroneous teaching in a Theological School, see ¶ 256.

V. Disagreement in Business—Arbitration

¶ 283. In case of any disagreement between two or more members of the Church concerning business transactions, which cannot be settled by the parties, the Preacher in Charge shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and shall recommend to the parties that such disagreement be submitted to arbitration. If this method of settlement be agreed upon, two arbitrators shall be chosen by one party, and two by the other, which four shall choose a fifth. The said arbitrators shall be members of our Church, who have no personal or pecuniary interests in the result. The Preacher in Charge shall preside, and the Disciplinary forms of trial shall be observed. If either party refuse to abide by the judgment of the arbitrators, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show sufficient cause for such refusal, he shall be expelled.

¶ 284. If any member of the Church, in case of debt or other dispute, shall refuse to refer the matter to arbitration, when recommended to do so by the Preacher in Charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be brought to trial, and if he fail to show that the case is of such a nature as to require and justify such a course, he shall be expelled.

¶ 285. If, in the case of debt or dispute, one of the parties is a Minister, the duties assigned to the Preacher in Charge in the foregoing paragraphs shall be performed by the District Superintendent of the Minister concerned. If both be Ministers, the District Superintendent of either may act in the case.

VI. Insolvency

¶ 286, § 1. Preachers in Charge are required to execute faithfully the rules against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering no one to remain in the Church who is found guilty of fraud.

§ 2. To prevent scandal, when any member of the Church fails in business, or contracts debts which he is not able to pay, two or three judicious members of the Church, designated by the Preacher in Charge, shall inspect the accounts, contracts, and circumstances of the supposed delinquent; and if they believe that he has behaved dishonestly, or borrowed money without a reasonable probability of paying, he shall be brought to trial, and, if found guilty, shall be expelled.

¶ 287. In all the foregoing cases of trial enumerated in this chapter the accused member shall be brought to trial before a Committee of not less than five members of the Church. They shall be chosen by the Preacher in Charge, and, if he judge it necessary, he may select them from any part of the District. The accused may challenge for cause. The Preacher in Charge shall preside at the trial.

VII. Penalties

¶ 288. If the accused person be found guilty by the decision of a majority of the Committee, the Preacher in Charge shall then and there pronounce the sentence of expulsion.

¶ 289. But if, in view of mitigating circumstances and of humble and penitent confession, the Committee find that a lower penalty would be proper, it may im-

pose censure on the offender, at its discretion, or suspend him from all Church privileges for a definite time.

¶ 290. An expelled person shall have no Privileges of Society or of the Sacraments of the Church without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation.

CHAPTER VII

APPEAL OF A BISHOP

¶ 291, § 1. A Bishop or Missionary Bishop shall have the right to appeal to the General Conference in case of an adverse decision by the trial court hereinbefore prescribed in such cases; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he notify the Secretary of the General Conference of his intention to appeal. All such appeals shall be heard and determined by the General Conference Committee on the Judiciary.

§ 2. If during the session of a General Conference a Bishop or a Missionary Bishop shall have been convicted, the General Conference shall extend the term of service of the Committee on the Judiciary until it shall have disposed of a possible appeal in the case.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the General Conference, on receiving notice of such appeal, to inform the senior effective Bishop, whose duty it shall be, after conference with the parties in interest, to fix the time and place for the hearing of the appeal, and to instruct the Secretary of the General Conference to serve due notice of the same to all concerned.

CHAPTER VIII

APPEAL OF A MEMBER OF AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE—JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

¶ 292, § 1. The several Annual Conferences shall at each session select five Elders, men of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as Triers of Appeals, and also two reserve Triers of Appeals. The reserves shall serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals.

§ 2. In Foreign Missions or Foreign Mission Conferences, remote from other Missions or Conferences, let there be not less than nine nor more than thirteen Elders selected as Triers of Appeals, and also three reserves, and from these, thus selected, shall be chosen the Triers of Appeals to constitute the Judicial Conference for said body. The proceedings to comply with the requirements of ¶ 252.

¶ 293. When notice of an appeal has been given to the President of an Annual Conference, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to designate three Annual Conferences conveniently near to that from the decision of which the appeal is taken, and the Triers of Appeals of such Conferences shall constitute a Judicial Conference. He shall fix also the time and place of its session. He shall also give notice thereof to the said Triers of Appeals and to all others concerned. Such Judicial Conference shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any Conference conveniently near, due notice having been given to all concerned.

¶ 294. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge, yet so that the number of Triers of Appeals present and qualified shall not fall below nine, which number shall be required for a quorum.

¶ 295. A Bishop shall preside in a Judicial Conference and shall decide all questions of law arising in its proceedings, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. The Judicial Conference shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep a faithful record of all the proceedings, and at the close of the hearing shall transmit the records made and the papers submitted in the case, or certified copies thereof, to the Secretary of the General Conference, to be filed for use by the General Conference in case of appeal. In all cases the findings of the Judicial Conference shall be reported by its Secretary to the Secretary of the Annual Conference whose membership is affected thereby, and if no further appeal shall have been taken on a question of law, the same shall be published in the Minutes of said Annual Conference.

¶ 296. In all cases of trial and conviction of Members of an Annual Conference, an appeal shall be allowed to a Judicial Conference, constituted as hereinbefore provided, if the condemned person, within thirty days after his conviction, shall signify in writing to the Secretary of the Annual Conference his intention to appeal.

¶ 297. Appeals from an Annual Conference within the United States, not easily accessible, at the discretion of the President thereof may be heard by a Judicial Conference selected from among more accessible Conferences. Appeals from an Annual or Mission Conference not in the United States may be heard at the discretion of the Bishop in charge there-

of, due regard being had to the rights and interests of all concerned, either by a Judicial Conference called by said Bishop from neighboring foreign Conferences, or by a Judicial Conference called by him to meet at or near New York, or by the General Conference through a special Appellate Committee appointed for the purpose.

¶ 298. When the case of any Minister who has been suspended or expelled is remanded for a new trial, his suspension from all ministerial functions shall continue until the next ensuing session of the Annual Conference.

¶ 299. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended by a Committee of Investigation in the interval between the sessions of his Conference, and subsequently be found guilty by his Conference and expelled, his claim upon the funds of the Conference shall cease from the time of his suspension. Should a Member of an Annual Conference be suspended and afterward be restored, he shall have no claim upon the Pastoral Charge nor upon the funds of the Conference during the period of such suspension.

¶ 300. The General Conference, on appeal, or on Complaint, shall carefully review the decisions of Questions of Law contained in the records and documents transmitted to it from Judicial Conferences; and in case of serious error therein, shall take such action as justice may require. The papers submitted shall be returned by the Secretary of the Committee on Judiciary to the Chairman of the Delegation of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a Member.

CHAPTER IX

RESTORATION OF CREDENTIALS

I. When Voluntarily Surrendered

¶ 301. When an ordained Minister of any class who is in good standing shall surrender his Credentials for any reason, the Annual Conference at any subsequent time may restore the same upon the recommendation of the District or Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he has membership as a Local Preacher.

II. When Involuntarily Surrendered

¶ 302. When a Member of an Annual Conference by expulsion or otherwise shall have been deprived of his Credentials, they shall be filed with the papers of his Conference; and in case the said Member has come to us from another Church, so that he holds the certificate of our Church and his original credentials indorsed by our Church, he shall be required to surrender to his Conference both the certificate of our Church and the original Credentials bearing our indorsement. If at any future time he shall give satisfactory evidence to said Annual Conference of his amendment, and procure a certificate from the Quarterly Conference of the Charge in which he resides, or from an Annual Conference which may have received him on Trial, recommending to the Annual Conference of which he was formerly a Member the

restoration of his Credentials, the said Annual Conference may restore them.

¶ 303. When a Local Elder or Deacon shall have been expelled or deprived of his Ministerial Office, the District Superintendent shall require of him the Credentials of his ordination, to be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the expulsion has taken place. Should he, at any future time, produce to the Annual Conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of his Quarterly Conference, his Credentials may be restored to him.

CHAPTER X

APPEAL OF A LOCAL PREACHER

¶ 304. In case of conviction, a Local Preacher shall be allowed to appeal to the next Annual Conference; provided, that within thirty days after his conviction he shall signify in writing to the President or Secretary of the District or Quarterly Conference by which he was tried, his determination to appeal; and the said Annual Conference, in full session, or by a Select Number of not less than nine nor more than fifteen shall hear the appeal. If the hearing be by a Select Number, the Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge. The decision of said Annual Conference shall be the final determination of the case, subject only to an appeal to the General Conference by either party on Questions of Law.

¶ 305. An appeal by a Local Preacher from a Quarterly Conference within the jurisdiction of a Mission shall be to the Annual Meeting of the said Mission.

CHAPTER XI

APPEAL OF A CHURCH MEMBER—COURT OF APPEALS

¶ 306, § 1. At the Fourth Quarterly Conference of each year each Pastoral Charge shall select from among the members of the Church one person of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as a Trier of Appeals for Members.

§ 2. When due notice of appeal has been given to the Superintendent of any District, he shall proceed, with due regard to the wishes and rights of the Appellant, to convene a Court of Appeals, which shall be constituted of such of the Triers of Appeals on his District as he shall summon, the number so summoned by him to be not more than fifteen nor less than nine; but the Trier of Appeals of the Charge to which the accused member belongs shall not be one of the number so summoned. The District Superintendent shall give not less than ten nor more than thirty days' notice of the time and place at which the Court of Appeals will assemble, and such notice shall be given to all concerned. The Appellant shall have the right of peremptory challenge; provided, that the Triers of Appeals present and ready to proceed with the hearing shall not fall below seven, which number shall constitute a quorum. The District Superintendent shall preside.

§ 3. Said Court of Appeals shall be competent to hear appeals which may be presented to it from any

Pastoral Charge on the District, due notice having been given to all concerned.

§ 4. If the District Superintendent shall find the convening of such a Court to be impracticable, or seriously inconvenient to the parties involved, with due regard to the rights and wishes of the Appellant, he shall have the appeal heard by a Quarterly Conference within his District; in which case no one who was in any way connected with the trial shall sit as a member of the Quarterly Conference, to hear the appeal.

¶ **307.** Any member of the Church against whom judgment is rendered by a Committee on Trial, may appeal from such judgment to the Court of Appeals for Members as hereinbefore constituted, by giving written notice of his intention to the Preacher in Charge and to the District Superintendent within thirty days after said judgment is rendered.

CHAPTER XII

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

I. Testimony and Notice

¶ **308,** § 1. The testimony of a witness who is not a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall not be rejected on that account.

§ 2. The testimony of an absent witness may be taken before the Preacher in Charge where such witness resides, or before a Preacher appointed by the District Superintendent of the District within which such witness resides; provided, that sufficient notice

of the time and place of taking such testimony shall have been given to the adverse party.

§ 3. If in any case the accused person, after due notice has been given him, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the time and place set for a hearing, the investigation or trial may proceed in his absence.

II. Records

¶ 309, § 1. In all investigations or trials the records should be accurate and full; they shall include the proceedings in detail and all the documents admitted, together with the charges, specifications, and findings, and shall be approved and attested by the President and Secretary. In all investigations the Presiding Officer shall appoint a Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings and documents, of which records, when properly attested, the said Presiding Officer shall be the custodian. The custodian shall deliver the entire record to the President or Secretary of the Conference or Committee to which the case shall go for final disposition.

§ 2. In the trial of a member of the Church the Preacher in Charge shall appoint the Secretary, and the said Preacher in Charge shall be the custodian of the records, when properly attested. If no appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the Recording Steward for preservation. If an appeal be taken, he shall deliver the records to the President of the proper Appellate Court, and after they have been used in this Court they shall be returned by the Secretary to the Recording Steward of the Charge from which they came.

§ 3. The Secretaries of Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences and of the General Conference shall be the custodians of the records, which in all cases shall be made by them or their Assistants, of all trials occurring in their bodies respectively; and in case of appeal, they shall deliver said records to the President or Secretary of the proper Appellate Court. After the said appeal has been heard, the records shall be returned to the Secretary of the Conference from which they came.

III. Counsel

¶ 310. In all cases of investigation or trial where counsel has not been provided for either the Church or the accused, such counsel shall be appointed as follows:

§ 1. In the investigation of a Bishop or of a Missionary Bishop, counsel shall be appointed by the officer presiding; and in case of a trial, counsel shall be appointed by the General Conference. Such counsel shall be either Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. In the investigation of a Member of an Annual Conference, counsel shall be appointed by the District Superintendent; and in case of trial the appointment shall be by the Annual Conference. In either case such counsel shall be Members of an Annual Conference.

§ 3. In all other cases, counsel shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer and shall be Ministers or members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

IV. Charges

¶ 311, § 1. In no case shall charges or testimony be held as privileged so as to protect the accuser from the consequences of false and malicious prosecution; and both Ministers and members should be warned against making hasty or insufficiently supported charges.

§ 2. Amendments may be made to a bill of charges up to the time of the opening of the trial, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, provided they relate to the form of statement only and do not change the nature of the alleged offense and do not introduce new matter of which the accused has not had due notice.

§ 3. Amendments to charges against Members of an Annual Conference shall be presented in the Conference and ruled upon by the Bishop presiding before the case is committed to the Select Number for trial.

§ 4. A charge of slander shall not be entertained unless signed by the person alleged to have been slandered.

V. Trials

¶ 312, § 1. In all cases of investigation or trial the required notification to persons accused and to such witnesses as either party may name shall be in writing, and shall issue in the name of the Church and be signed by the President or the last appointed Secretary of the tribunal which is to investigate or try the case. Said notification shall be delivered personally or sent by registered mail to the last known post-office address of the person to be notified.

§ 2. In all cases, sufficient time shall be allowed for the person to appear at the given place and time, and for the accused to prepare for the investigation or trial; and the President of the tribunal to investigate or try the case shall decide what constitutes "sufficient time."

§ 3. In all cases of investigation or trial both parties shall have the right of challenge for cause, and it shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer to see, if possible, that there be present a sufficient number of properly qualified persons as substitutes to prevent the number from being reduced below that required for the investigation or trial.

§ 4. In case of investigation, trial, or appeal the Presiding Officer shall not deliver a charge, reviewing or explaining the evidence or setting forth the merits of the case; but he shall remain and preside until the judgment is expressed, the findings completed, and the record signed; but without expressing any opinion on the law or facts unless the parties in interest be called in.

VI. Appeals

¶ 313, § 1. An appeal shall not be allowed in any case in which the accused has failed or refused to be present in person or by counsel at his trial. But appeals, regularly taken, shall be heard by the proper Appellate Court unless it shall appear to the said Court that the Appellant has forfeited his right to appeal by misconduct, such as refusal to abide by the finding of the Trial Court, withdrawal from the Church, or failure to appear in person or by counsel to prosecute the appeal.

§ 2. The right of appeal when once forfeited by neglect or otherwise cannot be revived by any subsequent Appellate Court.

§ 3. The right to take and to prosecute an appeal shall not be affected by the death of the person entitled to such right. His heirs or legal representatives may prosecute such appeal as he would be entitled to do if he were living.

§ 4. In no case shall an appeal operate as a suspension of sentence. The finding of the Trial Court must stand until it is modified or reversed by the proper Appellate Court.

§ 5. The records and documents of the trial, and these only, shall be used as evidence in the hearing of any appeal.

§ 6. In all cases where an appeal is made, and admitted by the Appellate Court, after the charges, findings, and evidence have been read and the arguments concluded, the parties shall withdraw, and the Appellate Court shall consider and decide the case. It may reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of the Trial Court, or it may remand the case for a new trial. It may determine what penalty, not higher than that affixed at the trial, shall be imposed. If it neither reverse, in whole or in part, the judgment of the Trial Court, nor remand the case for a new trial, nor modify the penalty, that judgment shall stand. But the Appellate Court shall not reverse the judgment, nor remand the case for a new trial on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

§ 7. In all cases the right of appeal shall be exhausted when the case has been heard once on its merits in the proper Appellate Court; but Questions

of Law may be carried on appeal, step by step, to the General Conference.

§ 8. If in any case of appeal of a Member of an Annual Conference, of a Bishop, or of a Missionary Bishop, the Appellate Court is convinced that new evidence has been discovered material to the issue, it may remand the case for a new trial.

§ 9. If, within sixty days after the conviction of a member of the Church, he shall make application in writing to the Preacher in Charge for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and submit therewith a written statement of the same, and if it shall appear to the Preacher in Charge that such evidence is material to the issue involved, he shall grant a new trial.

§ 10. In no case shall a new trial be granted upon newly discovered evidence which could have been obtained for the trial in the exercise of due diligence, or which is merely cumulative in its effect.

§ 11. In all cases of appeal the Appellant, at the time he gives notice of his appeal, shall furnish to the officer receiving such notice, and to the counsel for the Church, a written statement of the grounds of his appeal; and the hearing in the Appellate Court shall be limited to the grounds set forth in such statement.

§ 12. When any Appellate Court shall reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of a Trial Court, or remand the case for a new trial, or change the penalty imposed by that court, it shall return to the Annual Conference or to the secretary of the Trial Court a statement of the grounds of its action.

§ 13. The order of appeals on Questions of Law shall be as follows: From the decision of the Preacher

in Charge to the District Superintendent presiding in the Quarterly or District Conference; from the decision of the District Superintendent to the Bishop presiding in the Annual Conference; and from the decision of the Bishop to the Judicial Conference, in case of appeal; otherwise to the General Conference.

§ 14. When an appeal is taken on a Question of Law, written notice of the same shall be served on the Secretary of the body in which the decision has been rendered, whose duty it shall be to see that an exact statement of the question submitted and the ruling of the Chair thereon be entered on the Journal. He shall then make and certify a copy of the said question and ruling and transmit the same to the Secretary of the body to which the appeal goes. The Secretary who thus receives said certified copy shall present the same in open Conference and as soon as practicable lay it before the Presiding Officer for his ruling thereon; which ruling must be rendered before the final adjournment of that body, that said ruling together with the original question and ruling may be entered on the Journal of that Conference. The same course shall be followed in all subsequent appeals.

PART VI

TEMPORAL ECONOMY

I. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT
II. CHURCH PROPERTY
III. LADIES' AID SOCIETIES

CHAPTER I

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

I. Stewards.

¶ 314. There shall be not less than three nor more than twenty-one Stewards in each Circuit or Station, except that in Circuits or Stations of over seven hundred members, there may be added one Steward for each additional one hundred members. After each annual election one of the Stewards shall be elected by the Quarterly Conference Recording Steward, one District Steward, one Reserve District Steward, and one Communion Steward, for each appointment. But when two or more Pastoral Charges shall be united the Stewards of the Several Pastoral Charges shall hold office until the newly created Quarterly Conference shall elect.

¶ 315. Let the Stewards be persons of solid piety who are members of the Church in the Pastcral Charge, who both know and love Methodist Doctrine and Discipline, and are of good natural and acquired abilities to transact the temporal business of the Church.

¶ 316. The Pastor shall have the right to nominate the Stewards, but the Quarterly Conference shall confirm or reject such nominations. The Stewards elected at the Fourth Quarterly Conference unless otherwise provided by direct action of that Conference, shall enter upon the discharge of their duties on the adjournment of the next Annual Conference,

and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.

¶ 317. The duties of Stewards are: To take an exact account of all the money or other resources received for the support of the Ministers in the Charge, and to apply the same as the Discipline directs; to make an accurate return of every expenditure of money, whether for the Ministers or the poor members of the Church; to seek the needy and distressed in order to relieve and comfort them; to inform the Ministers of any sick or disorderly persons; to tell the Ministers what they think wrong in them; to attend the Quarterly Meetings, the Official Board Meetings, and the Leaders and Stewards' Meetings of the Charge; to give advice, if asked, in planning the Circuit; to attend committees for the application of money to Churches; to give counsel in matters of arbitration; to provide the elements for the Lord's Supper; to write circular letters to the Societies in the Pastoral Charge, exhorting them to greater liberality, if need be, and urging systematic giving in accordance with Special Advice VII, and also to let them know, when occasion requires, the state of the temporal concerns of the Charge.

¶ 318. Stewards are accountable for the faithful performance of their duties to the Quarterly Conference of the Charge, which shall have power to dismiss or change them at pleasure.

II. Ministerial Support

NOTE.—¶¶ 319–322 are the same as ¶ 112 and are repeated here for the sake of clearness.

¶ 319. The Quarterly Conference of any Charge may organize and continue during its pleasure an

Official Board, to be composed of all the members of the Quarterly Conference. In the case of circuits the Quarterly Conference may organize, and continue during its pleasure, Official Boards for the several appointments of the Charge, such Official Boards to be composed of the members of the Quarterly Conference attached to the respective appointments.

¶ **320.** The Official Board shall hold its meetings monthly on a stated day. It shall be presided over by the Pastor, or, in his absence, by a Vice-Chairman regularly elected; and there shall also be chosen a Secretary who shall keep a record of its proceedings, and send the same to the fourth Quarterly Conference for approval; it shall also elect two Treasurers for each appointment, one for Current Expenses, and one for Benevolences, who shall keep a careful record of the receipts and disbursements of all moneys, and report the same at each regular monthly meeting. When so organized the Official Board may discharge the duties of the Leaders and Stewards' Meeting. When such action is taken it shall make void such provisions of the Discipline, under "Ministerial Support," as relate to the financial duties of the Stewards. ¶¶ 317, 323.

¶ **321.** The Official Board or, where no such Board is organized, the Quarterly Conference shall further organize by the selection, with the consent of the Pastor, of committees for the care of Church property, finance, music, and such other committees as may be thought necessary. The Finance Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than seven members, whose duty it shall be before the close of the fiscal year to prepare an estimate of the current expenses and benevolences for the ensuing year. This

estimate shall include the amount necessary for ministerial support, viz.: For Pastor's salary and house rent, District Superintendent, Bishops, and Conference Claimants. Also the amount deemed necessary for current expenses, such as interest on indebtedness, heat and light, music, insurance, repairs and supplies, telephone, printing and postage, janitor, and miscellaneous items. Also for Benevolences as apportioned to each Charge by the Commission on Finance. This budget of Benevolences and Current Expenses shall be presented at a special meeting called to hear the report, or at the last monthly meeting of the fiscal year.

¶ **322.** When approved by the Official Board, or Quarterly Conference, immediate steps shall be taken by a personal canvass of the entire membership of the Church and congregation to secure pledges to meet these by weekly payments, so that the result may be known on the last Sunday of the fiscal year, and payment of these pledges begin on the first Sunday of the new fiscal year.

III. Support of Pastors

¶ **323,** § 1. It shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge at the session immediately preceding the Annual Conference to appoint an Estimating Committee, consisting of three or more members of the Church; which committee may be authorized by vote of the Quarterly Conference to determine the minimum amount the Charge shall pay for Pastoral Support for the ensuing Conference year, and report the same to the Superintendent of the District before the next session of the Annual Conference; to which amount shall be added the

amount apportioned for the support of Conference Claimants, Bishops, and the District Superintendent; and the Stewards shall provide for raising the sum thus required, when the method prescribed in ¶¶ 319-322 is not in force. In case of failure to authorize the Estimating Committee as above, or in case it may seem desirable to increase the estimate, the Committee, after conferring with the Pastor, shall report the amount of support agreed upon for that year to the first Quarterly Conference, to the action of which the report shall be subject.

§ 2. The Traveling and Moving Expenses of the Ministers shall not be included in the estimate, but shall be paid by the Stewards as a separate item.

¶ **324.** It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference, whenever practicable, to organize Conference Sustentation Fund Societies to supplement the inadequate ministerial support in those Pastoral Charges which are unable to furnish a sufficient support.

¶ **325.** Should the people among whom a Member of an Annual Conference has labored fail to pay him his allowance, he may present a claim for the same to the Conference, and the Conference may authorize the Conference Stewards to pay a part or all of said claim out of funds at its disposal for such purpose, and shall include in its report the name of the Pastoral Charge with the amount paid. In no case, however, shall the Church or the Conference be held accountable for a final deficiency.

IV. District Stewards and Support of District Superintendents

¶ **326.** The duties of District Stewards are: To attend the annual District Stewards' Meeting when

called by the District Superintendent, to cooperate with the District Superintendent in carrying out uniformly in the District the Disciplinary plans for Ministerial Support, and to perform the duties specified in ¶¶ 327, 328.

PLAN 1

¶ 327. There shall be held annually, in every District, a meeting of the District Stewards (¶ 326), whose duty it shall be, with the advice of the District Superintendent presiding in such District Stewards' Meeting, to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a comfortable support for the District Superintendent; and to apportion the same, including House Rent and Traveling Expenses, and also the claims for the support of Conference Claimants and Bishops as apportioned to the District by the Annual Conference, among the Pastoral Charges in the District, according to their several ability; and in all cases the District Superintendent shall share with the Pastors in his District in proportion to what they have respectively received. The District Stewards shall determine a date within each quarter of the Conference year to be known as settlement day; on which date the Pastors, District Superintendents, Conference Claimants, and Episcopal Claims shall be paid, if not previously paid at the time of the Quarterly Conference, said date to be not later than the middle of the quarter. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Fund for Ministerial Support on each Charge to make remittance on said date by mail or otherwise to the District Superintendent of the *pro rata* amount due him. The minutes of the District Stewards' Meeting shall be kept by a Secretary chosen for the purpose, who shall also record the same in a

book of which the District Superintendent shall be the custodian.

PLAN 2.—ALTERNATIVE

¶ 328, § 1. Any Annual Conference desiring to do so may by a majority vote, instead of the above, adopt the following plan:

§ 2. There shall be organized in the Conference a Commission on Finance to consist of the several District Superintendents, together with one Minister and two laymen from each District.

§ 3. The commission shall organize by electing its own officers. These shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There may be a Treasurer in each District to hold and distribute the funds of that District.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Commission on Finance of the Annual Conference to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a sufficient and equitable support for the District Superintendent of each District in the Conference.

§ 5. The several District Superintendents shall be authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the commission for their salaries monthly, according to the credits of their Districts in the treasury, or each on the Treasurer of his own District, as the commission may determine.

§ 6. The Conference Commission on Finance shall apportion the sum required to be raised for this purpose among the Charges on such basis as the Conference may direct. The commission shall also apportion to the Charges, on the same basis, the amount assigned the District for the support of Bishops and Conference Claimants.

§ 7. The amount apportioned to each Pastoral Charge for the support of District Superintendents shall be a *pro rata* claim with that of the Bishops, Pastor, and Conference Claimants. Conference Claimants, Bishops, and Pastor shall be entitled to their claims only to the extent to which the claim of the District Superintendent is also met by the Charge.

§ 8. It shall be the duty of the District Stewards to see that the fund for the support of the District Superintendents be raised and forwarded monthly to the Treasurer of the Commission on Finance of the Conference, or to the Treasurer of the District Superintendents' Fund for the District.

V. Support of Bishops

¶ 329, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee to make an estimate of the amount necessary to furnish a competent support for each Effective Bishop, considering the number and condition of his family.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Book Committee, in fixing the allowance of Retired Bishops and of their widows and children of sixteen years of age and under, to inquire carefully into the financial condition of each and to fix the allowance in every case at such a sum as may be required for a comfortable support; provided, that the amount so fixed for a Retired Bishop shall not exceed one half the amount allowed for his support during the year prior to his retirement.

¶ 330. The Bishops are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund for the amounts allowed to them, inclusive of properly audited ac-

counts for official travel, clerical assistance, and house rent or maintenance, as authorized by the General Conference.

¶ 331. The Book Committee shall apportion the aggregate sum required to be raised for these purposes among the Annual Conferences, on the basis of the total amount raised in the respective Annual Conferences for Pastoral Support including rental value of the parsonages, but exclusive of Missionary appropriations, and the Annual Conferences shall apportion the same to the several Districts, and the District Stewards shall apportion the amount apportioned to the District among the several Pastoral Charges. The amount apportioned to each Pastoral Charge for the support of the Bishops shall be a *pro rata* claim with that of the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and the District Superintendent; and the Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent shall be entitled to their allowances only to the extent to which the claims of the Bishops are also met by the Charge or District with which such Pastor, Conference Claimants, and District Superintendent are connected, in accordance with ¶¶ 323, 328, § 7. It shall be the duty of the Annual Conferences to see that the amounts apportioned to the different Pastoral Charges for the support of the Bishops be raised and forwarded quarterly, when practicable, to the Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund.

¶ 332. The Treasurer of the Episcopal Fund shall be elected quadrennially by the Book Committee; he shall charge the sums paid to the Bishops, and to the widows and minor children of deceased Bishops, to the Episcopal Fund; and all collections received from the different Charges for the support of the Bishops

shall be credited to said fund. The Treasurer shall report annually to the Book Committee and Annual Conferences the amount received from the several Annual Conferences on account of said fund, and also the expenditures made; and shall also make to the General Conference a full and detailed exhibit of such receipts and expenditures for the preceding four years.

VI. Support of Conference Claimants

1. CLAIM

¶ 333, § 1. The claim to a comfortable support inheres in the Gospel Ministry and rightfully inures to the benefit of the Preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, when he is admitted to membership in an Annual Conference. Such claim is not invalidated by his being retired, and at his death passes to the dependent members of his family.

§ 2. Retired Ministers, the widows of deceased Ministers (during their widowhood, and while they remain members of the Methodist Episcopal Church), and their children under sixteen years of age, are Conference Claimants and beneficiaries of the moneys as hereinafter provided.[1] For a year at a time and without prejudice to their rights, such claimants may voluntarily relinquish their claim; or on recommendation of the Conference Stewards the claim may be disallowed by action of the Annual Conference, taken after opportunity to be heard has been given.

2. PERMANENT ENDOWMENTS

¶ 334, § 1. Moneys for the permanent endowment

[1] For relief of Local Preachers, see Appendix, ¶576.

shall be held by the Board of Conference Claimants, located at Chicago, Illinois, and shall be administered through its connectional *Permanent Fund*. The Board of Conference Claimants shall also administer all gifts and bequests the custody of which is not otherwise designated, the income of which is intended for the use of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Annual Conferences are authorized to establish and maintain investment Funds; Preachers' Aid Societies; and organizations and funds of similar character, under such names, plans, rules, and regulations as they may determine, the income from which shall be applied to the support of Conference Claimants. It is recommended that each Annual Conference provide an incorporated Board to administer its permanent funds.

3. ANNIVERSARIES

¶ **335**, § 1. *Conference Anniversary.* Each Annual Conference shall hold one service during its session, to be known as the Conference Claimants' Anniversary, for the promotion of the interests of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. *Joint Session.* The Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences are recommended to hold a Joint Session quadrennially in the interests of Conference Claimants, and, jointly, to adopt such measures as shall promote the active cooperation of Preachers and people in the liberal support of this cause.

§ 3. *Veterans' Day.* Each Congregation shall observe annually one Sunday as Conference Claimants' Day. The second Sunday in May shall be so observed, unless another day be substituted by the Annual Conference, and shall be known as "Veterans' Day."

4. APPORTIONMENT

¶ 336. It shall be the right and duty solely of the Annual Conference to make its own apportionment. The Conference Stewards in determining the total amount which shall be apportioned to the Pastoral Charges in the Conference shall first estimate the total amount required for the support of all its Conference Claimants. From this amount they shall subtract the income received during the previous year from the Chartered Fund, Book Concern, Connectional Relief, and from all other sources for this purpose, except the receipts from the Pastoral Charges for annual distribution; to this sum, when it is approved by the Annual Conference, shall be added the apportionment received from the Commission on Finance for the Board of Conference Claimants, and this final sum shall be equitably apportioned among the several Pastoral Charges in such manner as the Annual Conference may determine. (See Appendix, ¶ 579.)

¶ 337. Moneys contributed to the Board of Conference Claimants shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants, Chicago, Illinois, who shall issue a voucher for the same; or they may be paid to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference, who shall receipt therefor and forward the amount so received to the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants.

5. ESTIMATING COMMITTEE

¶ 338. The Quarterly Conference of the Pastoral Charge to which a Conference Claimant is related shall require its Committee on Estimating Ministerial Support to estimate also the amount necessary to provide a comfortable support for such Confer-

ence Claimant, giving full information in case of special need. After this estimate has been considered and approved by the Quarterly Conference, it shall be certified by the president and secretary thereof and sent to the Secretary of the Conference Stewards for their guidance.

6. CONFERENCE STEWARDS

¶ 339, § 1. Each Annual Conference shall elect Conference Stewards, who may be either Preachers or laymen, arranged in classes so that one third of the Members shall be elected each year.

§ 2. The Conference Stewards shall ascertain what Claimants are in special need, *i. e., whose needs require more than can be paid to them from the Annuity Distribution*, and, using as a general basis the estimates received from the Quarterly Conferences and other available information, shall make an equitable allowance to them, which shall be paid *pro rata* from moneys available for that purpose.

§ 3. Upon the recommendation of the Annual Conference, the Conference Stewards may consider and act upon any claim which the Quarterly Conference may have overlooked.

§ 4. Each Annual Conference shall determine whether or not its Conference Stewards shall make a preliminary report; and, if so, whether or not it shall be read in open Conference, or the action of the Conference Stewards be final.

§ 5. An Annual Conference shall have authority to recognize as Claimants the widow and minor children of a former Member by agreement with the Conference of which he was a Member at the time of his death.

7. METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

¶ 340, § 1. There are three methods for the distribution of moneys raised for the support of Conference Claimants, viz.:

1. The *Annuity* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 341.

2. The *Necessitous* Distribution to Conference Claimants, by Annual Conferences. ¶ 343.

3. The *Connectional Relief* Distribution to Annual Conferences, by the Board of Conference Claimants. ¶¶ 485, 486.

§ 2. Moneys for the above mentioned purposes shall be derived from public collections, private gifts, bequests, and other sources; and that the Church may effectually meet the sacred obligation to provide a comfortable support for Conference Claimants, the rules and regulations for obtaining and administering the funds established for such purpose shall be observed by all Pastors, District Superintendents, and Bishops, and by all Pastoral Charges, Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences.

1. *The Annual Conference Annuity Distribution.*

¶ 341. The Annual Conference Annuity Distribution shall be made to Conference Claimants by the Conference Stewards according to the following regulations:

§ 1. The annuity claim of any Retired Minister shall not be less than one seventieth (1-70) of the average salary (house rent excluded) of the effective members of his Conference, who are Pastors or District Superintendents, multiplied by the number of years of his effective service, including two years on trial.

§ 2. The annuity claim of a widow shall be determined by the number of years during which she was the wife of a Preacher while he was in the effective relation, as a Member of an Annual Conference, and shall be three fourths of the annuity claim of a Retired Minister for such term of years.

§ 3. The term of a father's effective service shall determine the annuity claim of his child, which shall be one fifth of the claim of a Retired Minister, for such term.

§ 4. Whenever a Conference Claimant shall be in debt to the Book Concern, the Conference shall have power to appropriate the amount of the annuity claim, or any part thereof, to the payment of such debt.

¶ **342.** Moneys designated for Annuity Distribution shall be *distributed on the basis of service*, and shall consist of:

§ 1. The dividends of the Book Concern and the Chartered Fund.

§ 2. The income from any investments made by the Annual Conference for Annuity Distribution and held in trust for this purpose.

§ 3. Such gifts and bequests as are made for Annuity Distribution.

§ 4. Such part of the annual support for Conference Claimants furnished by the Pastoral Charges as the Annual Conference may determine.

2. *The Annual Conference Necessitous Distribution.*

¶ **343.** Moneys designated for Necessitous Distribution shall be distributed by the Conference Stewards on *the basis of special need* and shall consist of:

§ 1. The annual Dividend for Connectional Relief

paid to the Annual Conference by the Board of Conference Claimants.

§ 2. Such part of the support for Conference Claimants furnished by the Pastoral Charges, as the Annual Conference may determine.

§ 3. The income from such gifts and bequests as are made for necessitous distribution.

§ 4. Gifts and bequests made for immediate distribution.

§ 5. Income arising from investments made by Relief and Aid Societies of Annual Conference, if so determined by them.

3. *Connectional Relief Distribution.*

¶ 344. For the Connectional Relief Distribution to Annual Conferences by the Board of Conference Claimants, see ¶¶ 485, 486.

CHAPTER II

CHURCH PROPERTY

I. Trustees—Appointment and Duties

¶ 345. Each Board of Trustees of our Church property shall consist of not less than three nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age, and two thirds of

NOTE.—Wherever the general State law does not meet the needs of our Church administration, the Annual Conference, through its Board of Trustees, or otherwise, is authorized to seek such enactments as will recognize the authority of our Church laws wherever they may not conflict with the Constitution of such State.

whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ **346.** In all cases where the law of the State or Territory or Country fixes the mode of election, qualifications of voters and trustees, or any other matters pertaining to their election, let its requirements be carefully observed.

¶ **347.** In all other cases the Trustees may be elected by ballot by members of the Church not less than twenty-one years of age, at a meeting called for that purpose at a date near to and not later than the fourth Quarterly Conference. Ten or more members of the required age must unite in a written request for such meeting, and shall present it to the Pastor, or, if there be no Pastor, to the District Superintendent, who shall thereupon fix the date and place of the election, and notice thereof shall be given publicly from the pulpit for two Sundays prior to the date fixed.

¶ **348.** But in Churches which do not come under the provisions of ¶ 347, and when no such written request shall have been made by the members, the Trustees shall be elected annually by the fourth Quarterly Conference of the Charge. One third of the Trustees may be elected each year to serve for three years. In case of failure to elect at the proper time a subsequent Quarterly Conference may elect. Trustees shall hold their office until the close of the Quarterly Conference at which their successors shall have been elected.

¶ **349,** § 1. All the foregoing provisions shall apply both to the creation of new Boards and to the filling of vacancies, whether for houses of worship or for dwellings for the Preachers.

§ 2. Charters obtained for Church property, in the manner of creating and filling Boards of Trustees, shall conform to the provisions of this chapter.

¶ 350. The Board or Boards of Trustees in any Charge shall hold all Church property, using so much of the proceeds as may be needful to pay debts or to make repairs, and shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference. They shall invest all Trust Funds coming under their control, in conformity with the laws of the State, and shall deposit Trust Funds in Savings Banks or invest them only in securities which are lawful for Savings Banks. They shall make to the fourth Quarterly Conference an annual report, embracing the following items: 1. Number of Churches and Parsonages. 2. Their probable value. 3. Title by which held. 4. Income. 5. Expenditures. 6. Debts and how contracted. 7. Insurance. 8. Amount raised during the year for buildings and improving Churches or Parsonages. 9. Trust Funds, how invested.

¶ 351. Trustees, or other Church Officers, having charge of our Church property shall not prevent or interfere with the legal and proper uses of such property as intended by the laws and usages of the denomination, and they shall not use the property for purposes not in harmony with the law and the intention for which the property was created. They shall not prevent or interfere with the Pastor or other duly authorized Ministers of the denomination in the use of said property for religious services or other proper meetings recognized by the law and usage of the denomination. Further, no Pastor or other Officer shall abolish or prevent a service in the Church property which has been ordered by or according to Church law or authority.

¶ 352. In no case shall the Trustees of Church or Parsonage property mortgage or encumber the real estate for the current expenses of the Church.

II. Conveyance of Church Property

¶ 353. Churches may become incorporated in all cases where the law of the land permits, and it is deemed that the welfare of the Churches will be promoted thereby. The articles of incorporation or Charter, shall provide that the corporation shall support the doctrine, and shall be subject to the law, usages and ministerial appointments of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as from time to time established, made and declared, by the lawful authority of the said Church. The officers of the corporation shall be a Board of Trustees, elected and organized according to the law of the Methodist Episcopal Church, unless otherwise determined by the paramount law of the land. The Charter shall also provide that the corporation shall have power to acquire, hold, improve, encumber, exchange, sell and convey, and dispose of property, both real and personal, *in fee simple* or otherwise.

¶ 354. Property for Church purposes should be acquired and held by an absolute title, *in fee simple*, if possible. In the case of incorporated Churches, the conveyance should be made directly to the corporation. In other cases, the conveyance should be made to Trustees, heirs and assigns; or, to Trustees, their successors and assigns, as the law of the land may require; in either case setting forth the names of the Trustees. Whether conveyed to a corporation, or to trustees, the deed of Conveyance shall contain a trust

clause in the following words, or in words to this effect, to wit: *"In trust for the use of the A. B. Methodist Episcopal Church* [giving the name of the Church acquiring the property, incorporated or unincorporated, as the case may be]; *subject to the doctrines, law, usages and ministerial appointments of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as from time to time established, made and declared, by the lawful authority of the said Church; and if the said property shall be sold or encumbered, the proceeds of the sale or encumbrance shall be applied to the use aforesaid; subject, however, to the provisions of the law of the Church relating to abandoned Church property; and of that forbidding the mortgaging of real estate for current expenses."*

¶ 355. Churches, incorporated or not, may encumber, sell, and dispose of their real estate for the use aforesaid, when they deem it advantageous; in all cases observing the requirements of the law of the land, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In all transactions affecting real estate, Church officers should be careful to obtain and follow the direction of competent advisers, as to the substance, form, execution and recording, of all contracts, deeds, mortgages and other instruments of writing, involved in the said transactions.

¶ 356, § 1. Wherever it shall be found by any District Superintendent that it is impracticable to incorporate a local Society, or to form a Board of Trustees, at places where work should be undertaken and maintained, property acquired for Church or Parsonage purposes may be deeded to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which the property is located, if the laws of the State will permit, in trust for the

local Society existing or in contemplation. In similar cases where the State law requires Church property to be held by Boards of Trustees, the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference may hold the property in trust for the local Society until such time as the local Society shall form a Board of Trustees, or until other Disciplinary disposal of the property shall be made.

§ 2. When a donation is received from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in case the property involved is held in trust by the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference no trust bond and mortgage shall be required by the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, provided the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference agrees, with the approval of the Annual Conference, that the property shall not be re-deeded without protecting the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and that the annual appropriations to the Conference may be withheld, if need be, for such protection.

III. Building Churches

¶ 357. Let all our Churches be plain and decent, and with free seats wherever practicable; and not more expensive than is absolutely unavoidable.

¶ 358. In order more effectually to prevent our people from contracting debts which they are not able to discharge, it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of every Charge where it is contemplated to build a house or houses of worship, to secure the ground or lot on which such house or houses are to be built, according to our Deed of Settlement, which Deed must be legally executed; and

said Quarterly Conference shall also appoint a judicious Committee of at least three members of our Church, who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build; and three fourths of the money required, according to such estimate, shall be secured or subscribed before any such building shall be commenced.

¶ 359. In all cases where debts for building houses of worship have been, or may be, incurred contrary to, or in disregard of the foregoing recommendation, our members and friends are requested to discountenance such a course by declining to give pecuniary aid to any agents who shall travel beyond their own Circuits or Districts for the collection of funds for the discharge of such debts; except in such peculiar cases as may be approved by an Annual Conference, or in case of such agents as may be appointed by their authority.

IV. Mortgaging and Sale of Church Property

¶ 360. If the Trustees of Church property, or any of them, have advanced any sum or sums of money, or are responsible for any sum or sums of money, on account of said property, and they, the said Trustees, are obliged to pay the said sums of money, they, or a majority of them, shall be authorized to raise the said sum or sums of money, by a mortgage on the said premises, or by selling the said premises, after notice given to the Pastor or Minister of the congregation attending divine service on the said premises, if the money due be not paid to the said Trustees, or their successors, within one year after such notice is given. If such mortgaging or sale take

place, the said Trustees or their successors, after paying the debts and other expenses which are due from the money arising from such mortgaging or sale, shall pay the balance, if not needed and applied for the purchase or improvement of other property for the use of the Church, to the Annual Conference within whose bounds such property is located; and in case of a reorganization of said society, and the erection of a new Church building, within five years after such transfer of funds, then the said Annual Conference shall repay the said new corporation the moneys which it has received from the Church or society.

¶ 361. Whenever it shall become necessary for the payment of debts, or with a view to reinvestment, to mortgage or make a sale of Church property that may have been conveyed to Trustees of the Church corporation for either of the foregoing purposes, said Trustees or their successors, upon application to Quarterly Conference, may obtain an order for the mortgage or sale—a majority of all the members of such Quarterly Conference concurring, and the Pastor and the District Superintendent of the District consenting—with such limitations and restrictions as said Quarterly Conference may judge necessary; and said Trustees so authorized may mortgage or sell and convey, such property;

Provided, that in States or countries where the civil or statute law provides any manner of alienation, conveyance, and control of real estate inconsistent with the foregoing, such mortgage, sale, alienation, or control may be effected pursuant to the provisions of the laws of such State or country; and

Provided, that in all cases the proceeds of the mortgage or sale after the payments of debts, if any, if

not applied to the purchase or improvement of other property for the same uses, and deeded to the corporation in the same manner, shall be held by such corporation subject to the order of the Annual Conference within the bounds of which such property is located, or of the Trustees of the Conference fund; and

Provided, that nothing contained in this or the last preceding paragraph shall prevent the establishment and maintenance of an Endowment Fund for the use and benefit of the existing Church Society or Societies, and said fund shall not be subject to the order of the Annual Conference or the Trustees of the Conference Fund, except as provided in ¶ 362.

¶ 362. In all cases where Church property is abandoned, or no longer used for the purpose originally designed, it shall be the duty of the Trustees, if any remain, to sell such property and pay over the proceeds to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which it is located; and where no such lawful Trustees remain, it shall be the duty of said Annual Conference to secure the custody of such Church property by such means as the laws of the State may afford, subject to return in the same manner and upon the same contingencies as named in ¶ 361.

¶ 363. Houses of worship and Parsonages may be removed from one place to another on the same conditions as those on which they may be sold.

V. Building and Renting Parsonages

¶ 364. It is recommended by the General Conference that our Ministers advise our friends in general to purchase a lot of ground in each Charge, to build

a Parsonage thereon, and to furnish it with at least heavy furniture.

¶ **365.** The General Conference recommends to each Charge, in case it is not able to comply with the above request, to rent a house for its married Pastor and his family, and that the Annual Conference assist in providing the rental for such houses as far as it can, when the Pastoral Charges cannot do it.

¶ **366.** Wherever there are two or more Societies on a Pastoral Charge a separate Board of Trustees, consisting of not less than three nor more than nine persons, shall be elected by the Societies on said Charge, to be the custodians of the Parsonage property on such Charge. Such Trustees shall have the qualifications required by ¶ 345 of the Discipline for Trustees of Church property, and shall become bodies corporate wherever practicable under the laws of the States and Territories within whose bounds such Parsonage property is located.

¶ **367.** The Stewards in each Charge shall be a standing Committee, where no Trustees are constituted for that purpose, to provide houses for the families of our married Ministers, or to assist the Ministers to obtain houses for themselves, when they are appointed to labor among them.

¶ **368.** It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents and Ministers to use their influence to carry into effect the above rules, respecting building and renting houses for the accommodation of Ministers and their families. In order to accomplish this, unless other measures be adopted, each Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee, which, with the advice and aid of the Ministers and District Superintendents, shall devise such means as may seem wise to raise

moneys for that purpose. And it is recommended to the Annual Conferences to make a special inquiry of their Members respecting this part of their duty.

VI. Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church

¶ 369. There shall be an incorporated Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Cincinnati, composed of twelve members, divided into classes of three Ministers and three Laymen each. The term of office shall be eight years. Each General Conference shall elect one class, and fill vacancies caused by death, resignation, cessation of membership in the Church, or otherwise. Vacancies occurring in the interval of the General Conference shall be filled for the remainder of the quadrennium by the Bishops.

¶ 370. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Cincinnati, Ohio, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio, pursuant to the action of the General Conference, should not be confounded with local Boards of Trustees of Church property referred to in ¶¶ 345-352 of the Discipline, which local Boards have the care only of Church property within the several Pastoral Charges to which they are related, and are amenable to their respective Quarterly Conferences. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church are constituted by the General Conference and made amenable thereto, in order that the Church may have competent representation in legal proceedings and have an authorized body to care for and administer all the property conveyed to it, or committed to it in trust, within the jurisdiction

of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America.

¶ **371.** This corporation shall hold in trust, for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, any and all donations, bequests, gifts, grants, and funds in trust, etc., that may be given or conveyed directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church or to the Corporation for the benefit of said Church or for the benefit of Conference Claimants, or for the benefit of any of the benevolent Societies or other Institutions under the patronage or direction of the Church, or for any other benevolent purpose that the Corporation may judge to be in harmony with the purposes for which it was instituted, and to administer the said funds, and the proceeds of the same, in accordance with the directions of the donors, and the interests of the Church contemplated by said donors; provided, that any sums thus donated or bequeathed, but not especially designated for any benevolent object, shall be added to the "Permanent Fund"; and provided, also, that the Corporation shall not be required to accept any gift, bequest, or trust to which may be attached conditions deemed by the Corporation to be unreasonable or inconsistent with the terms of the trust, or likely to produce embarrassment in administration; and having accepted any gift or bequest in trust, it shall be responsible only for the careful and economical administration of the same, and shall not be held to account to any beneficiary for either the principal or income therefrom beyond what may be secured by fidelity and diligence. Each trust shall be charged with the expense necessary to its care and administration.

¶ **372.** It shall be the duty of the Pastor within

the bounds of whose Charge any donation, bequest, gift, grant, or trust is made directly to the Methodist Episcopal Church, or to this Corporation—*the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church*—to give prompt notice thereof to the said Trustees, in order that they may protect and administer the same without delay.

¶ **373.** This corporation shall make to each General Conference a full report in which shall be shown the Funds and Properties held in trust and the receipts and disbursements during the quadrennium.

¶ **374.** There shall be a Fund known as "The Permanent Fund," to be held by the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the principal of which shall be intact forever, and which shall be invested by said Trustees on first-class securities, and at as favorable rates as can be legally secured.

¶ **375.** It shall be the duty of all Ministers to obtain, as far as practicable, contributions to said Fund, by donations, bequests, and otherwise.

¶ **376.** The interest accumulating from said Fund shall be subject to the order of the General Conference for the following purposes: 1. To pay the expenses of the General Conference. 2. To pay the expenses of Delegations appointed by the General Conference to Corresponding Bodies. 3. To make up any deficiencies in the salaries of the Bishops. 4. To relieve the necessities of the Retired Ministers, and of the widows and children of those who have died in the work.

VII. Auditing and Bonding

¶ **377.** All persons holding trust funds, either of an Annual or the General Conference, shall be bonded

in a reliable company in a good and sufficient sum, as the Conference may direct, and the Conference shall pay the expense of said bonding. These accounts shall be audited at least once a year.

CHAPTER III

LADIES' AID SOCIETIES

¶ 378, § 1. For the promotion of the social and financial interests of the Churches, Ladies' Aid Societies, or Societies of similar designation and purpose, may be organized in the local Charge, which Societies shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The President of a Ladies' Aid Society shall be elected by the Society and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference: if a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she shall then become a Member of the Quarterly Conference if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be her duty to present to the fourth Quarterly Conference a report of her Society, together with such other information as the Quarterly Conference may require and she may be able to give.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of the Ladies' Aid Societies, and to ascertain if they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, if practicable, Ladies' Aid Societies.

PART VII

INSTITUTIONS, BOARDS AND SOCIETIES

I. THE BOOK CONCERN
II. THE COMMISSION ON FINANCE
III. BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
IV. WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
V. BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
VI. WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY
VII. FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY
VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION
IX. BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS
X. BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS
XI. EPWORTH LEAGUE
XII. AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
XIII. BOARD OF TEMPERANCE, PROHIBITION AND PUBLIC MORALS
XIV. GENERAL DEACONESS BOARD
XV. CHARTERED FUND

CHAPTER I

THE BOOK CONCERN

I. The Methodist Book Concern

¶ 379, § 1. The Methodist Book Concern comprises the publishing interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church—as set forth in the Discipline and in its articles of incorporation, under the corporate name, The Methodist Book Concern—and consists of the publishing houses located in New York City and in Cincinnati, Ohio, respectively; the Depositories connected therewith; the books, periodicals, and publications of the Church; and such other property, equipment, and appliances for their production, sale, and distribution, as the General Conference or the Book Committee from time to time may authorize and direct.

§ 2. The objects and purposes for which The Methodist Book Concern was established and is carried on are: the promotion of Christian education; the dissemination of moral and religious literature; the spread of Christianity by the publication, sale, and distribution of moral and religious literature; the transaction of such other business as is properly connected with book-publishing, book-making, and book-selling; the produce of the same to be applied for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children, in accordance with the Constitution and Discipline of the Church.

II. Book Committee

¶ 380. § 1. Beginning with A. D. 1900, the General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Book Committee, consisting of one member from each of the General Conference Districts into which the Annual Conferences are distributed, and ten members constituting the Local Committees as defined in § 2 hereof. Those elected from the Districts designated by odd numbers shall be elected for a term of eight years, and those from the Districts designated by even numbers for a term of four years; and hereafter each General Conference shall elect for a term of eight years one member for each District, who shall be nominated by the delegations representing that District, to take the place of the member whose term is then expiring, or to fill any vacancy in the Committee for the unexpired term; provided, that in any such case the person elected to fill such vacancy in a General Conference District membership shall be from the Annual Conference to which the retiring member belonged, or within the bounds of which he resided. Any vacancy occurring in the District membership of the Book Committee, by a member's removal from the District from which he was elected, or by any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

§ 2. In 1912 the General Conference shall elect five members of the Book Committee from New York City and the territory contiguous thereto, two of whom shall serve for four years and three for eight years; and shall elect five members from Cincinnati, Ohio, and the territory contiguous thereto, three of

whom shall serve for four years, and two for eight years. Thereafter each General Conference shall elect for eight years members from the respective territories to take the place of those whose terms are then expiring, and shall fill for the unexpired term any vacancy by the election of a member from the territory in which such vacancy occurs. The Standing Committee on Book Concern shall nominate the members of the Local Committees. The members provided for by this section shall be known as the Local Committee at New York and at Cincinnati respectively, and at least two members of each Local Committee shall be ministers. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Local Committee shall be filled by the Book Committee until the next session of the General Conference.

¶ 381, § 1. The Book Committee shall have general supervision and direction of the publishing interests. The Committee shall meet immediately after the adjournment of the General Conference and organize by the election of a chairman, a secretary, and such other officers as may be required by the laws of the States under which its articles of incorporation are obtained. It may also appoint such other officers and committees and adopt such rules and regulations for the transaction of its affairs as it may deem necessary. The officers shall perform such duties as are usually performed by similar officers.

§ 2. The annual meeting of the Book Committee shall be held on the third Wednesday in April, or at such other time as the Book Committee may determine, and special meetings may be held at such times and places as the Committee may

appoint or at the call of the chairman, or upon the written request of ten members of the Committee. At all meetings of the Book Committee a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 382, § 1. The Book Committee shall keep a correct record of its proceedings and shall examine carefully into the condition of the affairs of the Book Concern and make report thereof to the Annual Conferences and to the General Conference.

§ 2. The Book Committee shall have full power to discontinue any depository, periodical or publication when, in its judgment, the interests of the Church or Book Concern demand it; but said action shall not be taken except by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Committee, and after due notice of such contemplated action shall have been given to the Publishing Agents and Editors concerned. The Book Committee shall have power to order expenses curtailed in any of the departments of the Book Concern, and when such action as above specified shall have been taken, the Publishing Agents shall proceed at once to carry out the instructions of the Committee. The Book Committee shall also attend to all matters referred to it for action or counsel by the Publishing Agents or Editors.

§ 3. The Book Committee shall annually fix the salaries of the Bishops, Publishing Agents, and all official Editors elected by the General Conference or the Book Committee, not otherwise provided for, and shall determine the amount and the distribution of the Correspondence Fund allowed to the official periodicals.

¶ 383. The Book Committee shall elect quad-

rennially a Book Editor, whose duties are hereinafter defined. ¶ 395.

¶ 384, § 1. At the beginning of each quadrennium the Book Committee shall estimate the amount of money necessary to meet the expense of the next General Conference, and of the Judicial Conferences, General Conference Commissions, and such other expenses as the General Conference may have authorized to be paid from this fund. An equitable apportionment of the total amount estimated as necessary for the General Conference expenses shall be sent to the District Superintendents in each Annual Conference. The District Superintendents, within sixty days after the adjournment of their respective Annual Conferences in the first year of the quadrennium, shall make an equitable apportionment of the amount asked from their Districts for the quadrennium, and send a copy of this apportionment to the Charges of the District and to the Treasurer of the General Conference expense fund. Should any District Superintendent fail to make such an apportionment within the time named above, the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund is authorized to make the apportionment on the basis ordered by the Book Committee. One third of the full amount of the apportionment shall be raised in each of the three Conference years preceding the session of the General Conference and shall be promptly remitted to the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund. The Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund shall be elected quadrennially by the Book Committee. His compensation shall be fixed by the Book Committee and he shall report to and be amenable to that committee. He shall present a final detailed

statement of the receipts and expenditures of this fund at each General Conference.

§ 2. Any part of the apportionment unpaid at the close of the Annual Conference session preceding the General Conference shall be reapportioned and raised within the coming Conference year. Should there remain any deficiency at the close of the first Annual Conference session succeeding the General Conference, it shall be added to the regular apportionment for the next year, and shall be collected with it.

§ 3. All sums collected by the Pastor for General Conference Expense Fund shall be paid promptly to the Treasurer of the General Conference Expense Fund, who shall give a voucher for the same.

III. Local Committees

¶ 385. The members of the Local Committees of the Book Committee chosen from the territory contiguous to New York and Cincinnati, respectively, shall assemble as soon after their election as practicable and organize separately by the election of a Chairman and a Secretary for each of said Local Committees; and, as directed by the Book Committee, shall have the general supervision and direction of the affairs of the Publishing Houses and Depositories under their immediate charge; and during the intervals of the Book Committee meetings the Local Committees shall also perform such duties as commonly belong to the Executive Committee of a Board of Trustees. A majority of the members of each Local Committee shall constitute a quorum. The duties of the Chairman of the Book Committee, in case of his

absence or disability, may be performed by the Chairman of either of the Local Committees.

¶ 386, § 1. The Local Committees respectively shall meet monthly, to examine into the affairs under their charge, and shall keep correct records of their proceedings, and when requested they shall submit the records either to the Book Committee or to the Local Committees in joint session. At the beginning of the quadrennium each Local Committee shall value all the real estate under its supervision; which value shall be entered in the records and shall not be changed during the quadrennium, except as property may be purchased, improved, sold, or destroyed.

§ 2. The Methodist Book Concern shall not buy, sell, or exchange any real estate, nor shall the Book Committee authorize any new buildings, nor make any improvements, alterations, or repairs to existing buildings to an amount in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) except by order of the General Conference, or between the sessions of the General Conference, by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Book Committee. But this provision shall not prevent the making of investments on mortgage security or the protection of the same or the collection of claims and adjustments.

¶ 387, § 1. The Local Committees shall meet in Joint Session semiannually at such time and place as they may determine, or at the call of the Chairman of the Book Committee, or at the written request of three members of each of the Local Committees; and when in Joint Session they shall act as a Joint Executive Committee. The chairman of the Book Committee shall be *ex-officio* Chairman, and shall preside at the Joint Sessions of the Local

Committees; and a majority of the members of each of the Local Committees shall be required for a quorum.

§ 2. The Local Committees, acting jointly, shall have power to suspend a Publishing Agent or an Editor, for cause to them sufficient; and in such case, a time shall be fixed at as early a day as practicable for the investigation of the official conduct of said Publishing Agent or Editor. Due notice of the time and of the nature of the charges shall be given by the Chairman of the Book Committee to such Publishing Agent or Editor, and also to the Bishops through their secretary. The Bishops thereupon shall elect one of their number to be present and preside at the investigation.

§ 3. The investigation shall be before the members of the Book Committee elected from the General Conference Districts, who by a two-thirds vote may remove from office said Publishing Agent or Editor, between the sessions of the General Conference.

§ 4. In case a vacancy occur in either the publishing, editorial, or other official departments of the Book Concern authorized by the General Conference, it shall be the duty of the Book Committee, two at least of the General Superintendents being present, and a majority of those present concurring, to provide, as soon as possible, for such vacancy until the session of the next General Conference.

IV. Publishing Agents

¶ 388. § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially three Publishing Agents, who, under the supervision and direction of the Book Committee,

shall have authority, as the administrative officers of the Book Concern, to regulate the production and distribution of the publications and to conduct the affairs of The Methodist Book Concern.

§ 2. At its meeting for organization, the Book Committee shall designate one of these Publishing Agents as the General Agent. It shall be the duty of said General Agent to classify and distribute to the several Publishing Houses and administrative officers herein described, the work of producing and circulating the various publications of the Church. He shall be responsible for the administration and management of the affairs of the Book Concern and shall perform such other duties as the General Conference or the Book Committee from time to time may direct.

§ 3. At the meeting for organization the Book Committee shall designate one of the Publishing Agents, who shall have immediate charge and administration of the publishing interests at New York City; one with like duties at Cincinnati; and one with like duties at Chicago. The Publishing Agents thus designated, subject to the approval of the Local Committee in charge, shall appoint such superintendents and heads of departments as may be deemed necessary to promote the efficiency and success of the Book Concern.

¶ 389, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Publishing Agents to publish, purchase, sell, and distribute such books, tracts, periodicals, and publications as are authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee.

§ 2. Tracts supplied to the different societies of the Church by order of the Book Committee shall be charged at the actual cost of publication.

¶ 390, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep the accounts of the Book Concern by such uniform system as shall be authorized by the Book Committee.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall annually take a complete inventory, including therein all assets of whatever nature belonging to the respective departments under their charge, and by a uniform system accurately determine their cash value; and shall include the real estate at the valuation made by the Local Committees at the beginning of each quadrennium, noting any changes made therein and the reasons therefor. The annual account shall be submitted to the Book Committee at its first session, and shall contain a full and detailed statement of all assets and liabilities, income and disbursements in the respective departments of the Book Concern.

§ 3. The Publishing Agents shall deliver to their successors in office such statements of assets and liabilities as shall be ordered, approved and certified by the Book Committee.

¶ 391, § 1. The Publishing Agents shall keep a separate account with the several departments of the Book Concern under their charge, including real estate, and in their reports of the same to the Book Committee, to the Annual Conferences, and to the General Conference shall set forth the amount of sales, receipts, and expenditures for books and periodicals, including sales by the Depositories under their management.

§ 2. The Publishing Agents shall furnish to the Local Committees a full and satisfactory statement of the transactions of each month, and when the Local Committees require shall present for examination proper vouchers for all payments made by them

during the period specified, and shall afford said Local Committees every possible means and facility for a full and intelligent understanding of the affairs of the several departments under their care.

¶ **392,** § 1. The Publishing Agents shall send to the Annual Conferences a statement of the accounts due the Book Concern from the several Members thereof and early in the session the Conference shall appoint a Committee on Periodicals, Publications, and Collections, composed of one Pastor for each Superintendent's District, which Committee shall assist in the collection of the accounts forwarded, and pay all collections to the Publishing Agent or his representative, if present; and if not present, the Committee shall make prompt and accurate return for the same to the Publishing House from which they were received, and shall receive a voucher for the same. This Committee shall make a careful canvass of the preachers in each of the Districts and ascertain what periodicals are supplied by the Book Concern, and what publications issued by other societies in the Church are taken, reporting the names and number of these publications in open Conference; and shall also send a copy of said report to the Publishing Agent by whom the accounts are issued. ¶ 86.

§ 2. Every District Superintendent and Pastor, when requested by the Publishing Agents, shall do all in his power to collect debts due the Book Concern; and should any Minister or member of our Church who is indebted to the Book Concern refuse or neglect to make payment, or to effect a just settlement of his account, he shall be reported and dealt with in the same manner as in other cases of debt or disputed accounts.

¶ 393. The produce of the Book Concern, after the Book Committee has determined and retained a sufficient amount with which to carry on its affairs, shall be regularly applied to the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary, and Retired Preachers, their wives, widows, and children. The division of the produce of the Book Concern available for distribution according to this paragraph shall be made equitably to the Annual Conferences upon the basis of the ratio of the total annuity claims of the several Annual Conferences to the total annuity claims of the entire Church, as shown in the reports made by the Conference Stewards to the Board of Conference Claimants, such reports to be carefully checked by the Corresponding Secretary and properly certified to the Book Committee which shall have charge of the distribution. In making this distribution the Publishing Agents shall forward to each Annual Conference, during its session, a statement showing the amount due the Conference, together with a draft for the same.[1]

NOTE.—For the division and distribution of the produce of the Book Concern to the Foreign Conferences, see Appendix, ¶ 580.

V. Depositories

¶ 394, § 1. There shall be Depositories for the sale and distribution of the books and publications of The Methodist Book Concern, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Boston, Massachusetts; and Detroit, Michigan, which shall be in charge of The Methodist Book Concern in New York; and Depositories at Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; and San Francisco, California, which shall be in charge of The Methodist Book Concern in Cincinnati; also Depositories at such other places as the General Conference may

determine from time to time. Each Depository shall be supplied with a full stock of the books of the General Catalogue, Sunday School Books, Sunday School Supplies, and Tracts, to be sold for the Publishing House with which the Depository is connected.

§ 2. After the expenses incident to the transportation, management, and sale of books and publications at the Depositories shall have been paid out of the sales, the net proceeds for the same shall be forwarded to the Publishing House by which they were supplied; to which Publishing House full statements of the amounts of sales and expenses shall be made at dates fixed, cash sales being distinguished from those on credit. Statements of the amount of stock shall also be made and sent to the Publishing House, when required.

VI. Editors

¶ 395. The Book Editor shall have editorial supervision of all manuscripts and printed matter intended for publication in book form, or intended to bear the imprint of The Methodist Book Concern, as hereinbefore provided. The Book Editor shall also be the editor of the tracts published by the Book Concern.

¶ 396. There shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference an Editor for each of the following periodicals: The *Methodist Review*, *The Christian Advocate*, the *Southwestern Christian Advocate*, *Der Christliche Apologete*, *Haus und Herd*, the *Epworth Herald*, and also an Editor of Sunday School Literature. Nominations of Editors for the foregoing publications shall be sent to the Secretary's desk in writing.

¶ 397, § 1. The General Conference, on nomination by the several Districts as herein provided, shall elect the Editors of the following periodicals: The *Western Christian Advocate*, the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, the *Central Christian Advocate*, the *Pacific Christian Advocate*, the *California Christian Advocate*, and the *Methodist Advocate-Journal*.

§ 2. For the purpose of making nominations of Editors for these Advocates, the Annual Conferences naturally tributary to the several publications shall be divided into nominating districts as follows:

Western Christian Advocate.—West Ohio, Ohio, Indiana, North Indiana, Northwest Indiana, and Kentucky Conferences.

§ 3. *Northwestern Christian Advocate.*—Rock River, Illinois, Central Illinois, Michigan, Detroit, Wisconsin, West Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Minnesota, Dakota, North Dakota, Upper Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa, and Northwest Iowa Conferences.

§ 4. *Central Christian Advocate.*—Southern Illinois, Saint Louis, Missouri, Kansas, Northwest Kansas, Southwest Kansas, Nebraska, Northwest Nebraska, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Colorado Conferences.

§ 5. *Pacific Christian Advocate.*—Columbia River, Oregon, Puget Sound, Idaho, Montana, and North Montana Conferences.

§ 6. *California Christian Advocate.*—California and Southern California Conferences.

§ 7. *Methodist Advocate-Journal.*—Holston, Alabama, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, Central Tennessee, Georgia, Saint Johns River, and Gulf Conferences.

§ 8. The General Conference delegates from each of the nominating districts above described shall place

in nomination before the General Conference one or more persons for Editor of the Advocate related to such district—the number thus nominated to be governed by the desire of those representing such districts and present at a regular meeting thereof to be called by the Secretary of the General Conference. The General Conference shall then elect by ballot the Editor of each Advocate. While the privilege of nomination shall reside in these several districts, the rights of any member of the General Conference to vote for whomsoever he pleases as Editor of any one of these publications shall not be abridged.

§ 9. In the above distribution of the Annual Conferences, the former North Ohio portion of the North-East Ohio Conference shall be considered as common patronizing territory for the *Pittsburgh* and the *Western Christian Advocates;* and the Northwest Indiana Conference, as common patronizing territory for the *Western* and the *Northwestern Christian Advocates.*

¶ **398.** The Editor of the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate* shall be elected quadrennially by ballot by the General Conference, on nomination of the delegates of the patronizing Conferences.

¶ **399.** The Book Committee may elect such Editors of publications conducted by The Methodist Book Concern as have not been elected by the General Conference.

¶ **400.** The Editor of *Haus und Herd* shall also be Editor of German Sunday School books, periodicals, and tracts.

¶ **401.** The Editors shall perform such duties as properly belong to the editorial office, and in such manner as the interests of the Church may require,

the General Conference may authorize, or the Book Committee in its business relations to the Editors may direct; and they shall give their undivided attention to these duties.

¶ 402. There shall be a Publishing Committee, for the *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*, elected by the General Conference, consisting of three members from the Pittsburgh Conference, three from the Erie Conference, three from the North-East Ohio Conference, and three from the West Virginia Conference. Such Publishing Committee shall fix the salary of the Editor, keep an account of the receipts and expenditures of the paper, and report annually its financial condition to the patronizing Conferences. A copy of said report shall be sent also to the Publishing Agent at New York, and any balance remaining after defraying current expenses shall be subject to the order of said Publishing Agent.

¶ 403. The Annual and District Conferences are earnestly requested not to establish or encourage the establishing of Conference or local Church papers, except such as are approved and authorized by the General Conference or the Book Committee; and where such papers exist the Conferences are requested to discontinue the same, when it can be done consistently with existing obligations. They are also requested to discourage the display or sale of other than our own publications at the sessions of the Annual Conferences.

VII. Circulation of Religious Tracts

¶ 404. It is recommended to our people everywhere to form Tract Societies for the distribution of tracts and religious literature.

¶ 405. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of tract distribution before the fourth Quarterly Conference in each Charge within his District; and said Conference shall appoint a Committee, of which the Pastor shall be Chairman, whose duty it shall be to devise and execute plans for local tract distribution.

¶ 406. No books shall hereafter be sold on commission, either from New York, Cincinnati, or any Depository or establishment under direction of the Book Concern; provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the Publishing Agents from opening up limited "On Sale" accounts with our Ministers, the same to be governed by the general rules of credit of the Book Concern.

CHAPTER II

THE COMMISSION ON FINANCE

I. Constitution

¶ 407, § 1. There shall be a Commission on Finance, whose purpose it shall be to cooperate with the several Benevolent Boards of the Church, as hereinafter provided. The Commission on Finance shall consist of three Bishops, six ministers, and six laymen, to be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference, and the Corresponding Secretaries and Assistant Corresponding Secretaries of the Benevolent Boards. Each Board shall be entitled to but one vote in the Commission on Finance.

§ 2. Vacancies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled by the Board of Bishops. The members of the Commission shall serve without pay, save for traveling and hotel expenses and necessary clerk hire. The expenses of the Commission shall be levied upon the several Boards according to the amount of each Board's askings.

§ 3. Each Benevolent Board, through its representatives, shall submit to the Commission on Finance a full statement of its needs and askings, and said Commission shall have power to revise the askings of the several Boards, provided that no work already begun or planned by any Board shall be jeopardized by such revision.

§ 4. The decision of the Commission on Finance shall be upon the basis of present and probable future needs and not upon the basis of former askings or percentages. When the askings have been determined, the Commission shall make an equitable apportionment of the same to the Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences and Missions, together with a statement of the amount asked for each Board. The Commission shall send the apportionments, as made to the charges, directly to the District Superintendents, who shall send the same to the Pastors of the Charges.

¶ 408. The Commission shall advise and cooperate with the several Benevolent Boards in promoting the unity and efficiency of their financial plans, and shall have power to inaugurate and conduct campaigns for the promotion of the financial interests of the several Boards. The Commission is empowered to present to the General Conference such plan as it may deem necessary for the better correlation and the more ef-

fective administration of the benevolent work of the Church.

¶ **409,** § 1. The General Conference recommends that each Annual Conference, Mission Conference, and Mission create a Committee or Commission to consider such non-connectional causes as may desire to appeal to the Churches of said Conferences and Missions for financial aid. It is advised that no cause be admitted to the pulpits of our Churches for presentation and financial appeal, unless recommended by such Annual Conference Commission.

§ 2. The Commission on Finance is instructed to take such action as may be necessary to secure the organization and proper direction of the Conference Commissions, and, in cooperation with the several Boards, to adopt such measures as may be necessary to secure the assistance of the District Superintendents and Pastors in properly protecting our Churches and official benevolences from the multiplicity of non-official appeals.

§ 3. The Commission on Finance is authorized and instructed to prepare a suggestive working program for the quadrennium. This program shall include special emphasis upon Evangelism, Christian Stewardship, the education of the Church regarding the importance of our benevolent work, the circulation of our Church periodicals, and of the special literature which may be necessary for the information of the Church on these subjects. It may include other items deemed wise by the Commission. It should emphasize ways and means of enlisting, and the importance of training, our youth for the ministry and other forms of Christian service. It should give proper explanation of the Disciplinary plan and should suggest meth-

ods of making it effective throughout the following working units, namely: Episcopal areas, Conferences, Districts and local Churches.

II. Disciplinary Financial Plan

¶ 410, § 1. *Education:* That the Congregation may be fully informed concerning all departments of our Church activities, it is suggested that a full month be given to the educational preparation before the Every Member Canvass takes place. At frequent intervals throughout the year the various causes should be presented for the purpose of informing the people. In every Church provision should be made not only for special sermons and inspirational addresses, but for systematic study. In addition to thorough instruction concerning our manifold activities at home and abroad, there should be systematic instruction on the subject of Christian Stewardship.

§ 2. *Every-Member Canvass:* Let each Charge arrange a personal canvass of the members and supporters of the Church annually for pledges to the benevolences and current expenses of the Church; and that whenever practicable such canvass be made prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, by committees going two by two.

§ 3. *Weekly Offerings:* Let each Charge provide for subscriptions to benevolent and current expenses on a weekly basis, so that each member and supporter may pay or lay by his offerings each week.

§ 4. *Envelope System:* Let such uniform collecting devices be used as may be prepared or recommended by the Commission on Finance. The distribution of the amounts collected shall be in accordance

with the subscription or pledge made, except that when no specification of gifts is made they shall be divided *pro rata* among the several Boards according to the apportionments of each.

§ 5. *Two Budgets and Two Treasurers:* We recommend that there be two Distinct budgets in the local Church, the one for the current expenses and the other for benevolences. There shall be two Treasurers in each appointment, elected by the Quarterly Conference, one for the current expense fund and the other for the benevolent fund.

§ 6. *Quarterly Remittances:* To avoid the payment of heavy interest charges by the Benevolent Boards, all moneys collected for benevolences shall be remitted at least quarterly.

CHAPTER III

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

I. Incorporation

¶ 411. There shall be a Board of Foreign Missions, duly incorporated according to law, and having its office in New York city; said Board of Foreign Missions shall have committed to it the general supervision of all work in the foreign fields, and shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

II. Constitution

¶ 412. ARTICLE I.—*Name and Object.* The name of

NOTE.—For Charter, By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

this organization shall be the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Its objects are religious, philanthropic, and educational, designed to diffuse more generally the blessings of Christianity, by the promotion and support of all phases of Church work and missionary activity in foreign countries; and also in such other places subject to the sovereignty of the United States, but not on the continent of North America or the islands adjacent thereto, as may be committed to the care of such organization by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under such rules and regulations as said General Conference may from time to time prescribe.

¶ 413. ARTICLE II.—*Cooperating Members, Life Members, Honorary Members, and Patrons.*

§ 1. Every member who subscribes to the pledge and pays the fee fixed by the Board of Managers shall become a Cooperating Member. Any member contributing $20 at one time shall become a Life Member. Any member contributing $200 at one time shall become an Honorary Life Member. Any member contributing $500 at one time shall become an Honorary Manager for life. Any member contributing $1,000 at one time shall become a Patron for life.

§ 2. Honorary Managers not to exceed twenty in number may be elected by the General Conference, and, in case of vacancies, may be elected by the Board of Managers during the interval between the sessions of the General Conference, said Honorary Managers being entitled to speak in the meetings of the Board of Managers, but not to vote.

§ 3. The Board or the Executive Committee shall be authorized to appoint a committee of counsel in number not to exceed fifty, which committee in the

discretion of the Board or the Executive Committee may be convened from time to time to consider and advise upon questions of policy and program.

¶ **414.** ARTICLE III.—*Board of Managers.* § 1. The management and disposition of the affairs and property of the Board of Foreign Missions, the making of appropriations and the administration of appropriations, and all other funds shall be vested in a Board of Managers. This Board shall determine what fields shall be occupied as Foreign Missions and the amount necessary for the support of each, and shall make appropriations for the same, including an emergency fund of $50,000, provided that the Board of Managers shall not appropriate for a given year, including the emergency appropriation of $50,000 more than the total income for the preceding year.

§ 2. The Board of Managers shall consist of the General Superintendents and the Missionary Bishops who shall be *ex officio* members of said Board, and thirty-two Laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church and thirty-two traveling Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church elected by the General Conference upon nomination of the Bishops. In constituting the Board of Managers, the Bishops shall nominate one representative from each General Conference District, preserving as nearly as may be an equality in the number of Ministers and Laymen chosen from the Districts.

§ 3. The Board of Managers shall meet annually at the headquarters of the Board of Foreign Missions in New York city. Due notice shall be given to each member. The General Superintendents and the Missionary Bishops shall preside over said annual meeting.

§ 4. The Board of Managers shall elect an Executive Committee consisting of not less than thirty members. This Committee shall meet monthly at the headquarters of the Board of Foreign Missions in New York city, unless otherwise ordered by the Board. Traveling expenses in connection with the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee shall not be paid by the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, but traveling expenses in connection with the annual meeting shall be paid.

§ 5. Vacancies in the Board of Managers shall be filled as the Charter provides. The Board shall have authority to make By-Laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution or the Charter; to print books, periodicals, and tracts for Foreign Missions; to elect a President, Vice-President, a Treasurer, and such Assistants as may be necessary, a Recording Secretary, and such Assistant and other Secretaries as may be necessary; to fill vacancies that may occur among the officers elected by the Board; to organize departments for the administration of the work of the Board; to invite the cooperation of other agencies, where such cooperation will increase the efficiency of the work in the foreign field. It shall present a statement of its transactions and funds to the Church in its annual report, and shall lay before the General Conference a report of its transactions for the preceding four years, and the state of its funds.

§ 6. The Board of Foreign Missions shall have power to suspend a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, or any elected officer of the Board of Managers, for cause to it sufficient; and a time and place shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, at as early a day as practicable, for the inves-

tigation of the official conduct of the person against whom complaint shall have been made. Due notice shall be given by the Board to the Bishops, who shall select one of their number to preside at the investigation, which shall be before a Committee of twelve persons, six Ministers and six Laymen, none of whom shall be members of the Board of Managers. Said committee shall be appointed by the Bishop selected to preside at the investigation. Two thirds of said committee shall have power of removal from office, in the interval of General Conference, of the official against whom complaint has been made.

§ 7. In case a vacancy shall occur in the office of the Corresponding Secretary, the Bishops shall have power to fill the vacancy and until they do so the Board of Managers shall provide for the duties of the office.

§ 8. Thirteen members present at any meeting of the Board of Managers shall be a quorum.

§ 9. The Board shall have authority to solicit and receive funds for the publication and distribution of tracts.

¶ 415. ARTICLE IV.—*Corresponding Secretaries.* § 1. There shall be two Corresponding Secretaries, having coordinate power, who shall be the executive officers of the Board of Foreign Missions, both of whom shall be elected by the General Conference quadrennially.

§ 2. They shall be subject to the direction of the Board of Managers, and their salaries, which shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, shall be paid out of the treasury. They shall be employed exclusively in conducting the correspondence of the Board, in furnishing the Church with missionary intelligence, in supervising the foreign missionary work of the

Church, and, by correspondence, traveling, and otherwise shall promote the general interests of the cause.

¶ **416.** ARTICLE V.—*Election of Officers.* The officers to be elected by the Board shall be chosen and hold their office for the term of one year, or until their successors shall be elected; or, if a vacancy should occur during the year by death, resignation, or otherwise, it may be filled at any regular meeting of the Board. The first election of each quadrennium shall be held at the regular meeting of the Board next succeeding the General Conference.

¶ **417.** ARTICLE VI.—*Presiding Officer.* At all meetings of the Board the President shall preside. But if he should be absent, one of the Vice-Presidents shall take his place. In the absence of the President and of all the Vice-Presidents, a member appointed by the meeting for the purpose shall preside. The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the same are read and approved and by the Recording Secretary.

¶ **418.** ARTICLE VII.—*Special Gifts.* § 1. Pastoral Charges may receive credit for Special Gifts transmitted through the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions in the following manner: In case the full apportionment be raised aside from the Special Gifts, the latter shall be added to the regular gifts and be reported in the column for the regular offerings. In case the full apportionment be not raised aside from the Special Gifts, the latter shall be reported separately in the column for Special Gifts.

§ 2. The Board of Managers shall make supplemental appropriations for the work to the several Missions, of the average amount of Special Gifts received and applied in the previous three years, such supple-

mental appropriations not to be paid, except as Special Gifts are received for the Missions. Obligations beyond the amount of the money thus appropriated shall not be assumed in the Missions except as the necessary funds are received. All Special Gifts received for the fields shall be paid through the office of the Board of Foreign Missions, though the total thereof shall exceed the supplemental appropriation.

§ 3. The Board shall exercise general supervision over appeals for Special Gifts.

¶ 419. ARTICLE VIII.—*Support of Retired and Other Missionaries.* § 1. The Board may provide for the support of Retired Missionaries, and of the widows and orphans of Missionaries who may not be provided for by their Annual Conferences respectively; provided they shall not receive more than is usually allowed Retired Ministers, their widows and orphans in home Conferences.

§ 2. No one shall be acknowledged as a Missionary, or receive support as such from the funds of the Board of Foreign Missions, who has not been approved by the Board of Managers and been assigned to some definite field, except as above provided. Ministerial Missionaries shall be constituted by the joint action of a General Superintendent and the Board. Lay Missionaries shall be appointed by the Board of Managers.

¶ 420. ARTICLE IX.—*Amendments.* This Constitution shall be subject to amendment or alteration only by the General Conference.

III. Foreign Missionary Society

¶ 421. Auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions shall be organized the Foreign Missionary Society, of

which all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be members.

IV. Administration of Foreign Missions

¶ 422, § 1. When a Mission is established in a foreign country, outside of an Annual Conference, the Bishop having Episcopal supervision of the same may appoint a member of the Mission as Superintendent, who may also be a District Superintendent. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, in the absence of a Bishop, to preside in the Annual Meeting of the Mission and to arrange the work and take general supervision of the entire Mission. Also, from time to time, he shall represent the state of the Mission and its needs to the Bishop in charge and to the Corresponding Secretaries.

§ 2. The Bishop having Episcopal supervision of a Mission shall designate annually a time at which all the members of the Mission and also the native Preachers employed as supplies or helpers in the Mission shall come together for the purpose of holding an Annual Meeting, said meeting having, in all ecclesiastical matters, the duties and powers of a District Conference; and transacting such other business as may be assigned to it by the Board or grow out of the local interests of the work. In the absence of a Bishop or the Superintendent, the annual meeting shall choose its presiding officer in the manner provided for District Conferences.

§ 3. When a Mission in a foreign country is organized into a Mission Conference or an Annual Conference the administration of the Board of Foreign Mis-

sions shall not be disturbed thereby, but shall be continued as in other Foreign Missions.

§ 4. (1) The Missionaries in Japan while retaining their membership in their home Annual Conferences and without impairing their relationship to the Board of Foreign Missions and the appointing authority of the Methodist Episcopal Church, shall, while in service as Missionaries in Japan, be free to accept the rights and privileges in the Annual Conferences of the Japan Methodist Church as offered to them by that Church.

(2) The Missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions are authorized to unite the two existing Mission Councils in Japan into one Mission Council for all our work among the Japanese, to be known as the Mission Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Japan.

(3) The Mission Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Japan is authorized to elect and send one of its members to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church as its representative—said representative to be accorded the privilege of sitting with the Committees of the General Conference with the right to speak when questions relating to our work in Japan are being discussed.

V. Membership of Lay Male Missionaries in Annual Conferences

¶ 423. Lay male Missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions may be invited to sit as associate members of their respective bodies, and be permitted the privileges of the floor, and the right to vote on all

questions not ministerial or constitutional and shall be eligible for election on the Mission or Conference Finance and other Committees.

VI. Annual Conference Board

¶ 424, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions. This Annual Conference Board shall consist of the District Superintendents, District Missionary Secretaries, and District Epworth League Presidents, *ex officio*, and one Sunday School Superintendent, and one lay member from each District, to be elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the District Superintendents. The Annual Conference shall elect the officers of the said Board from among its members, on the nomination of the District Superintendents.

§ 2. The said Board shall present an annual Report to the Annual Conference through its President; and shall have charge of the Annual Conference anniversary of the Board of Foreign Missions, to which an entire evening shall be given.

§ 3. There shall be at least one meeting of the Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions each year for the consideration and furtherance of the interests of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference, at which meeting a Secretary or other representative of the Board of Foreign Missions shall be present if possible, and the said Board shall provide for the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the bounds of the Conference and may arrange for conventions.

VII. District Board

¶ 425, § 1. There shall be in each District Superintendent's District a District Board of Foreign Missions composed of the members of the Annual Conference Board of Foreign Missions from the District. The District Superintendent shall be the President of said District Board, and the District Missionary Secretary shall be its Secretary. Meetings of the said District Board shall be held at the call of the President; *provided*, that at least one meeting shall be held each year.

§ 2. The said District Board shall aid the Pastors in the presentation of the cause of Foreign Missions within the District, and may arrange for conventions.

VIII. District Missionary Secretaries

¶ 426. The presiding Bishop, on nomination of the District Superintendent, shall appoint a Member of the Annual Conference as Missionary Secretary for each District Superintendent's District, who shall serve without salary, and whose duty it shall be to assist the District Superintendent in carrying out the plans in the interests of Foreign Missions on the District; and who, by correspondence and otherwise, shall aid in securing the distribution of missionary literature in every Pastoral Charge, cooperate with the missionary office in New York city in the distinctive work of the Missionary Education Department, and keep the said office informed as to foreign missionary conditions on the District.

IX. District Superintendents

¶ 427, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that the provisions of the Disci-

pline concerning Foreign Missions are faithfully executed in his District, and in order thereto he shall inquire at each session of the several Quarterly Conferences, what has been done toward raising funds for the support of Foreign Missions during the preceding quarter, and particularly what has been done in the Sunday Schools for this cause.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to see that there be appointed at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge, a Committee on Foreign Missions, consisting of five or more persons, including one Sunday School Superintendent and one Epworth League President, of which Committee the Pastor shall be Chairman. Its duty shall be to aid the Pastor in disseminating missionary information, planning for the Annual Foreign Missionary Day, and securing a thorough canvass of the members of the Churches and Congregations in the interest of Foreign Missions.

X. Pastors and Churches

¶ 428, § 1. The support of Foreign Missions is committed to Pastors, Congregations, Sunday Schools, and Epworth Leagues.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to provide for the diffusion of missionary information among the members of his Church, Congregation, Sunday School, and Epworth League.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, to institute a monthly missionary prayer meeting or missionary address in his Pastoral Charge, for the purpose of

imploring the divine blessing upon Missions throughout the world, and for the diffusion of missionary intelligence among the people.

§ 4. The Pastor, aided by the Committee on Foreign Missions, shall arrange for an Annual Foreign Missionary Day when the Pastor or some one invited by him shall present the cause of Foreign Missions, at which time it is earnestly recommended that a self-denial or thank offering be taken for the work of the Board of Foreign Missions exclusively.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to see that each Sunday School on his Pastoral Charge is organized into a Missionary Society, and that at least one Sunday in each month is observed in the interest of Missions and a collection taken, which shall be divided as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent to the Board of Sunday Schools; and all contributions of the Sunday Schools shall be reported in a separate column in the Annual and General Minutes. It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Missionary Society, with the consent of the Sunday School Board, to provide brief missionary exercises on the day that is set apart for the monthly missionary collection to be taken, to cause suitable literature to be distributed in the Sunday Schools, and to arrange for occasional missionary concerts. The Sunday School Missionary Society shall include Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to organize Mission Study Classes on his Charge where practicable.

CHAPTER IV

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 429, § 1. For the more successful prosecution of the missionary work of the Church among women in foreign lands, there shall be an organization known as the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be governed and regulated by its Constitution, which may be altered or amended by the General Conference as the necessities of the work may require.

§ 2. This Society shall work in harmony with, and under the supervision of, the authorities of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The appointment, recall, and remuneration of Missionaries, and the designation of their fields of labor, shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Managers of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and annual appropriations to Mission fields shall be submitted for revision and approval to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions.

§ 3. All Missionaries sent out by this Society shall labor under the direction of the particular Conferences or Missions of the Church in which severally they may be employed. They shall be appointed annually by the President of the Conference or Mission, and shall be subject to the same rules of removal that govern other Missionaries, and they shall be members of the Church and Quarterly Conference and the District Conferences where they reside.

§ 4. All the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in foreign lands shall be under the direction of the Conferences or Missions, and their Committees in exactly the same manner as the work of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Superintendent or District Superintendent having the same relation to the work and the person in charge of it that he would have were it a work in the Pastoral Charge of any Member of the Conference or Mission.

¶ 430, § 1. The funds of the Society shall not be raised by collections or subscriptions taken during any of our regular Church services, nor in any Sunday School, but shall be raised by such methods as the Constitution of the Society shall provide, none of which shall interfere with the contributions of our people and Sunday Schools to the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the amount so collected shall be reported by the Pastor to the Annual Conference, and be entered in a column among the Benevolent Collections in the Annual and General Minutes.

§ 2. The provisions of § 1 of this paragraph shall not be interpreted so as to prevent the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society from taking collections in meetings convened in the interest of their Societies; nor, from securing memberships and life memberships in audiences where their work is represented; nor, from holding festivals or arranging lectures in the interest of their work.

CHAPTER V

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

I. Incorporation

¶ 431. There shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania. Its headquarters shall be in the city of Philadelphia. Its purpose shall be to prosecute missionary work in accordance with the terms of its Charter, in the United States and its possessions, not including the Philippine Islands.

II. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension

¶ 432, § 1. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be composed of twenty-eight Laymen and twenty-seven Ministers, nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference, except that the Corresponding Secretary shall be a member *ex officio*. There shall be included in this number besides the Corresponding Secretary, seven Bishops, and at least one Minister and one Layman from each General Conference District. All effective Bishops resident in the United States shall be *ex officio* members without a vote, in addition to the twenty-seven Ministers above provided for. The Superintendents of the five Departments shall be advisory

Note.—For Charter, Constitution, By-Laws, etc., see Annual Report and other publications of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

members. The terms of office shall begin at the adjournment of the General Conference, and continue for one quadrennium, or until their successors are chosen.

§ 2. The Board may declare vacant the seat of any member for inattention to duties or other sufficient reason, and any vacancy, however caused, shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 3. The Board shall meet within two months after the adjournment of the General Conference, at the call of the Corresponding Secretary. The annual meeting and any special meetings shall be held as the Board may determine, and special meetings may also be held at the call of the Executive Committee. At all meetings of the Board twenty-five shall constitute a quorum.

¶ **433.** The Board shall consider plans for increasing its receipts[1] and extending its work; shall receive reports from the several Departments; shall determine what total amount shall be appropriated for the work during the ensuing year, provided it shall not exceed the total available net income for the preceding fiscal year; shall determine what amounts shall be appropriated for (1) Administration; (2) Publicity; (3) Contingent Fund; (4) Work in Colleges and Universities; (5) The Education of Missionaries for work in foreign languages; (6) The several Departments of Work, subdivisions of these Departments, and Annual Conferences.

¶ **434,** § 1. The Board shall constitute an Executive Committee of twenty-five, of which the Corresponding Secretary shall be a member *ex officio*. The Superintendents of Departments shall be advisory members.

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[1] The provisions for Special Gifts for this Board are as noted in ¶418, §1.

§ 2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to administer such appropriations as may be referred to it, and to perform such other duties as the Board may direct.

¶ **435.** § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, five Superintendents of Departments, and a Treasurer.

§ 2. The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Recording Secretary shall be elected annually by the Board, from among its members.

§ 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference for one quadrennium.

§ 4. The Superintendents of Departments shall be elected by the Board, with the concurrence of the Corresponding Secretary.

§ 5. The Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Board.

§ 6. Vacancies in these offices shall be filled by the Board, except that a vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary shall be filled by the Board of Bishops.

§ 7. The duties of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer shall be those usually performed by such officers.

§ 8. The Corresponding Secretary shall be the general executive officer of the Board. He shall under the provisions of the Discipline and the direction of the Board promote and supervise the work of the Board to whose authority and control he shall, in all his official conduct, be subject, and by whom his salary and that of other salaried officers shall be fixed and paid. He shall communicate to any Bishop assigned to the presidency of a Mission, Mission Conference, or

Annual Conference, at the time of his assignment and during his presidency, such information as the office may possess, touching said Mission, Mission Conference or Annual Conference, for the guidance of the Bishop in administration, especially concerning the appropriation of missionary grants to Districts or Charges, the appointments of Superintendents of Missions, and other appointments to Districts or Charges receiving Home Missionary Appropriations. In the case of a vacancy in the interim of the General Conference, the Board shall have power to provide for the duties of the office, until it shall be filled by the Bishops.

§ 9. Each Superintendent of a Department shall have supervision of the particular Department of work for which he was specifically chosen.

¶ 436, § 1. The Board shall have power to provide for and administer a Loan Fund, and Annuity Funds, either in connection with or separate from the Loan Fund, as it may determine; to take and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church any real or personal property; to dispose of the same for the use and benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and generally to do all and singular the matters and things which shall be necessary and lawful in the execution of its trust; provided, however, that all amounts received on the Loan Fund shall be used only for loans on adequate security; and provided further, that the aggregate amount of annuities which the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed the annual interest receivable on the loans made. The expenses incurred in the administration of such funds shall be charged to and defrayed out of the income received therefrom.

§ 2. The Board shall organize and administer a Trust Department, with a Trust officer in charge, which shall have custody of all trust funds held by the Board, and of all its deeds, securities and collateral. Separate books and bank accounts shall be kept of all transactions in this Department.

§ 3. The Board shall have authority (1) to organize such bureaus as may be necessary for the successful prosecution of the work; (2) to elect Field Secretaries, with the concurrence of the Corresponding Secretary; (3) to aid either by donation or loan, or both, the building of Churches and Parsonages; (4) to make By-Laws for the regulation of its proceedings.

§ 4. The Board shall report its proceedings and the state of its funds quadrennially to the General Conference.

¶ 437, § 1. The more effectually to accomplish the purposes of the Board there shall be organized five departments of work, viz.: the Department of Church Extension, the Department of City Work, the Department of Rural Work, the Department of Frontier Work, and the Department of Evangelism.

§ 2. Each Department, as organized by the Board, shall consist of the Superintendent, five Ministers and five Laymen. The Board shall have power to add to the membership of any department at the request of the Superintendent. The members of the Department may or may not be members of the Board.

III. Department of Church Extension

¶ 438, § 1. The Department of Church Extension shall encourage the erection of churches in new com-

munities not already adequately supplied; shall assist in the building of churches and parsonages where assistance is most needed; and shall give special attention to church architecture, helping all our societies, when erecting churches, to build structures adapted to their requirements.

§ 2. All applications for Church Extension aid shall be made through the Annual Conference Board. Appropriations shall be granted by the Board or the Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the Department.

IV. Department of City Work

¶ 439, § 1. The Department of City Work shall further in every practicable way the organized religious and social work in places having City Societies, as hereinafter provided.

§ 2. It shall promote the organization of City Societies wherever opportunity offers.

§ 3. It shall aid in making surveys in our cities with special reference to the religious conditions of foreign-speaking peoples, the necessary changes in the location and adaptation of Church buildings and the relation of the Church to needy and congested communities. It shall also aid in the organization and development of adequate religious centers in the heart of great cities. It shall administer such appropriations as shall be committed to it by the Board.

§ 4. All City Societies duly organized shall report annually to this Department their requests for appropriations, indicating the special purposes for which grants are to be used.

§ 5. All appropriations for work in Cities shall be made to and administered by the Department of City

Work. The amounts thus designated shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Conference Board, except where there are City Societies duly organized, and in active operation, in which cases, all appropriations shall be made to and administered by such Societies, drafts in payments of such appropriations being sent direct to the Treasurer of the City Society.

§ 6. All City Societies shall be auxiliary to the Board, and shall make each year to the Department of City Work a detailed statement, which shall include, (1) Number of Ministers or Missionaries supported in whole or in part, the amount paid to each, and the kind of work in which each is engaged; (2) Expenses of administration; (3) The total amount raised by the Society and how expended. The report shall also include such other items as the Department shall require. The summary of such reports may be published in connection with the annual report of the Board.

¶ 440. City Societies. In order to promote evangelization and to coordinate the work of our Church in cities and in communities contiguous to each other it is recommended that, wherever such city, or community, shall have three or more Pastoral Charges, and where, in the judgment of their resident Bishop and the District Superintendent or Superintendents concerned, it is deemed advisable, a City Society shall be organized, under such name and control as it may determine. The Resident Bishop, the District Superintendent or Superintendents having jurisdiction in the territory covered by the Society, and all Pastors therein, shall be *ex officio* members of said Society or of its Board of Managers. Each Quarterly Conference shall also be entitled

to at least one lay representative in the Society or Board.

¶ 441, § 1. The City Society may include in its work the organization of Churches and Sunday Schools, the aid of weak Churches, the acquisition of real estate, and the erection of buildings, the adaptation of downtown Churches to their altered environment, the conducting of missions among foreign-speaking peoples, the maintenance of kindergartens and industrial schools, the promotion of social and settlement work, the support of rescue missions, and of institutions for the relief of the sick and the destitute. A City Society may also devise plans for promoting the connectional life of Methodism, and for cooperation and federation with other denominations.

§ 2. A City Society may elect, either from within or from without its membership, not more than three persons, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as members of the Quarterly Conference of any Church under its supervision or the object of its benefactions. The persons so chosen shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Quarterly Conference Membership.

§ 3. In Annual Conferences, where there exists a City Society, having an executive official, giving his entire time to the work, it is recommended, that said executive official shall be consulted, as far as practicable, in fixing appointments that affect Missions or Churches administered or aided by said Society.

§ 4. A City Society shall have authority in the territory covered by its Constitution or Charter, to make apportionments upon the Pastoral Charges, and

to collect and disburse moneys for all the objects contemplated in its organization.

§ 5. A City Society, in order to receive appropriations from the Board, shall meet the following conditions: (*a*) it shall be organized according to the Discipline; (*b*) it shall have an Executive Committee Meeting at least once every quarter; (*c*) it shall be actively at work; (*d*) it shall have made a report as required by the Department of City Work; (*e*) it shall raise annually by collections or otherwise an amount at least equal to that appropriated to it by the Board, excluding appropriations made for work among foreign-speaking peoples.

§ 6. There shall be a Council, or Councils of Cities, composed of the Corresponding Secretary, the Superintendent of the Department of City Work, and two delegates from each duly organized City Society. It shall be the duty of the Department of City Work to convene the Council or Councils annually at such time and place and under such conditions as said Department shall determine; at least four weeks' notice having been given to the City Societies.

¶ 442, § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent whose District covers in whole or in part a city, or contains communities contiguous to each other in which there are three or more Churches, to cooperate with the Department of City Work in securing, whenever practicable, the organization of a City Society as herein provided. Churches in communities adjacent to a city, and not attached to any other Society, may be included in the Society of the adjacent city.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of each Pastor whose Charge lies within the territory of a City Society,

once each year to present the interests of the Society to his congregation, take a collection for the same, or provide for the amount apportioned in the benevolent budget, and report the amount received to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Annual Conferences are directed to take such friendly interest in the City Societies within their bounds as shall promote their efficiency and facilitate their work; to arrange for the publication of their reports in the Conference Minutes and to provide a separate column in connection with the statement of the General Benevolent Collections for the itemized report of the offerings for this work.

V. Department of Rural Work

¶ 443, § 1. The Department of Rural Work shall have the following powers and duties: To encourage the organization of Rural Societies as hereinafter provided, and to cooperate with them when established.

§ 2. To make surveys in rural Church fields in order to ascertain their resources and needs and to determine the centers where permanent Church enterprises might be established which would serve the whole community.

§ 3. To apportion such funds as may be appropriated for this purpose to strategic centers widely distributed throughout the country for a given period of years and thus to demonstrate the service such a Church enterprise can render.

§ 4. To recommend to the responsible organizations cases where denominational exchanges should be made and where cooperative or federated plans could

be worked out to prevent overlapping by competing denominations, and also to point out where Churches of our own denomination should be united.

§ 5. To promote the study of rural sociology among our Ministers, and in our Colleges and Theological Schools, and to plan complete Courses of Study in our denominational Colleges for the preparation of those who catch the vision and feel the call to life-work in the rural field.

§ 6. To cooperate with all the allies of the Church in the great task of improving the economic, social, educational, and religious life of the people in the rural sections.

§ 7. To have such further powers and duties as will help to keep our Church fully abreast of the best thought and experience of the day concerning rural life.

¶ **444.** Rural Societies. § 1. Rural Societies may be organized on any District of any Annual Conference. They shall be auxiliary to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and report to the same.

§ 2. Such Societies may select their own name, determine their own organization, and prosecute such work as they deem best, under the advice of the Superintendent of the Rural Work Department.

§ 3. These Societies shall give special attention to the survey of their fields, to the development of a more efficient rural ministry, to religious and social work in neglected communities, and especially among non-English-speaking people, to the establishment of new Churches where needed, to the consolidation of Churches in over-churched communities, to the encouragement of a spirit of unity among our own

Churches and cooperation and federation with other denominations.

VI. Department of Frontier Work

¶ 445. The Department of Frontier Work shall have for its field of operations the newer sections of the country, as defined by the Board. It shall study the conditions and prospects of such sections, encourage the organization of new Churches where desirable, recommend the changing of the location of Churches as shifting populations may indicate, avoid planting Churches in communities already adequately supplied, recommend such appropriations to Missionaries as will best further the work and develop local support, and shall cooperate with the Board of Sunday Schools and with other denominations in the most friendly spirit.

VII. Department of Evangelism

¶ 446, § 1. The Department of Evangelism shall be established for the purpose of promoting aggressive evangelism throughout the home field.

§ 2. Its special mission shall be to inspire the Church to more earnest pastoral and personal evangelism; to cooperate with District Superintendents, Pastors, and City and Rural Societies in evangelistic campaigns where most needed; to assist the Board of Education in prosecuting evangelistic work in colleges and universities and secondary schools; to establish a bureau through which to utilize the services of accredited Methodist evangelists.

VIII. Annual Conference Boards

¶ 447, § 1. In each Annual Conference there shall be a Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, composed of the District Superintendents *ex officio*, and an equal number of Ministers and Laymen elected by the Annual Conference on nomination of the District Superintendents. Such Board shall have a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers, together with the District Superintendents, shall constitute an Executive Committee, with authority to recommend contingent or emergency appropriations, and to distribute all Home Mission Funds at the disposal of the Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Annual Conference to send the names of these officers to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and to publish them in the Conference Minutes.

§ 2. The Conference Board shall hold its Annual Meeting on the call of the President, and other meetings may be called by the President, or any three members, on due notice. The transactions of the year shall be reported by the President to the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, in making payments to meet appropriations, shall send drafts to the Secretary of the Conference Board, payable to the Treasurer, except in the case of duly organized City Societies or Rural Societies, in which case remittances shall be made direct to them.

§ 4. In Mission Conferences there shall be a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension constituted as in an Annual Conference, and having the same duties and powers.

IX. Boards of Church Location

¶ 448. There shall be, in each District of an Annual Conference, a Board of Church Location, consisting of the District Superintendent and three Ministers and three Laymen, nominated by the District Superintendent and approved by the Conference. It shall be the duty of this Board to prevent the selection of improper sites, and consider and determine all questions relating to the selection of new Church Locations which may be referred to it by the District Superintendent or by the vote of any Quarterly Conference. The decision of said Board shall be final, unless overruled by the Annual Conference. It also shall be the duty of this Board, when requested by the District Superintendent or the Quarterly Conference of a Church contemplating the erection of a new edifice or the extensive remodeling of an existing one, to consider carefully the entire situation, and report to the District Superintendent and the Quarterly Conference its opinion as to the feasibility of the enterprise.

X. Administration of Missions

¶ 449, § 1. A Mission shall meet annually at the time and place appointed by the Bishop in charge, who shall preside if present. In the absence of the Bishop the Superintendent of the Mission shall preside. The presiding officer shall bring forward the regular business of the meeting, and arrange the work. This Annual Meeting shall possess the functions and powers of a District Conference, although the authority to license Local Preachers, and to renew the licenses of Local Preachers and Exhorters, shall remain with the Quarterly Conferences.

§ 2. In Annual Missions using a language other than English examinations of local and traveling preachers shall be held by the Mission, and certified to the Annual Conference concerned. The Mission shall also make the recommendations for Admission on Trial in an Annual Conference.

§ 3. In the Italian Mission the Quarterly Conferences shall be presided over by the Superintendent of the English-speaking District within the bounds of which they meet, that he may be closely in touch with the work, and have responsibility for its progress.[1]

CHAPTER VI

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

¶ 450. There shall be an organization known as the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which Society shall have authority to collect and disburse money, employ Missionaries, and do work among the neglected populations in the home field under the same Disciplinary rules and regulations as those which apply to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society except the requirements contained in ¶ 429, §§ 3, 4.

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[1] The continuance of the Italian Mission was referred, by the General Conference, to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, with power.

CHAPTER VII

FREEDMEN'S AID SOCIETY

I. General Object

¶ 451. The work of the Freedmen's Aid Society shall be the establishment and maintenance of institutions for Christian education among the colored people in the Southern States and elsewhere. The instruction in these institutions shall include such literary, professional, and biblical courses of study and such industrial training as will tend to develop the highest Christian character. These institutions shall be located with reference to an educational system comprising collegiate centers and cooperative preparatory academies, so that with the greatest economy the educational needs of the people may be most fully met. Contributions shall be taken through the Church for the maintenance and support of this work, and for this purpose Lincoln's Birthday shall be observed wherever practicable. The schools shall be made self-supporting as rapidly as the financial conditions of the people will permit. Special efforts shall be made to secure permanent endowments for the various institutions, and the Board of Managers, whenever it is satisfied that the support will be ample and that the property will be maintained and perpetuated, may convey the control of said schools to a local Board of Trustees.

II. Board of Managers

¶ 452. There shall be a Board of Managers consisting of five Bishops, twelve Ministers, and twelve Lay-

men, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, upon nomination by the Bishops; their term of service shall begin on the first Wednesday in June following their election, and continue until their successors shall enter upon their duties. An interim vacancy shall be filled by the Bishops until the session of the ensuing General Conference, and the absence of any member from four consecutive meetings of the Board without reasonable excuse shall create a vacancy. The Board of Managers, being incorporated according to law, shall be subject to the control of the General Conference and the provisions of the Discipline, and shall have such powers and prerogatives as are needed to conduct the work of the Society, to designate what institutions shall receive aid for the ensuing year, and, as far as practicable, the amount each school shall receive; to determine the total amount to be expended in the support of the schools and for administrative purposes. Eleven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business, except the purchase and sale of real estate, in which case a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrent vote of eleven members shall be necessary to complete any such transaction. The Board shall make a quadrennial report to the General Conference, and shall publish quarterly, or oftener, full information concerning its work.

III. Officers

¶ 453. § 1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, three or more Vice-Presidents, two coordinate Corresponding Secretaries, a Recording Sec-

retary, a Treasurer, and an Assistant Treasurer, all of whom, except the Corresponding Secretaries, shall be elected by the Board at its annual meeting each year; but a vacancy may be filled at any meeting.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference, and as Administrative Officers shall be in all official acts subject to the authority and control of the Board of Managers. Their time shall be occupied, under the direction of the Board, in promoting the interests of the Society by conducting the correspondence and office work, traveling through the Church, giving general supervision to the institutions of learning under the care of the Society, and rendering other needful forms of service. In case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Board shall provide for the duties of the office until the Bishops shall fill the vacancy. The Board shall fix and pay the respective salaries of all its salaried Officers.

§ 3. The Publishing Agent at Cincinnati shall be the Treasurer of the Society, and the Board of Managers may appoint such Assistant Treasurers as it deems wise.

IV. District Superintendents

¶ 454, § 1. Each District Superintendent, as early in the Conference year as possible, shall inform each Pastor in his District of the amount to be raised in his Pastoral Charge, and he shall also inquire at the third Quarterly Conference if the amount asked for has been raised, and if not, he shall urge that it be secured before the close of the Conference year.

§ 2. At the last Quarterly Conference of each year

a committee of not less than three nor more than nine shall be appointed, of which the Pastor shall be the Chairman, to be called the Committee on Freedmen's Aid, whose duty it shall be to aid in carrying into effect the provisions of the Discipline and the plans of the Officers and Managers of the Society for the support of this cause, so that at least the amount asked for each year from the Pastoral Charge shall be secured. The Committee shall also see that information concerning this work is diffused among the people, using as one means for this purpose the literature published by the Society.

V. Pastors

¶ 455. The Pastor, aided by the Committee on Apportioned Benevolences and the Committee on Freedmen's Aid, where such Committee is constituted, shall provide for an annual Freedmen's Aid Day, and whenever practicable this day shall be the Sunday nearest to Lincoln's Birthday, when the Pastor shall present or shall have presented the Cause of Freedmen's Aid in the public congregation. On this occasion offerings and pledges may be received to meet the apportionment made by the Commission on Finance, unless such apportionment has been already provided for by the Every-Member-Canvass budget plan. This apportionment being a minimum asking, a free-will offering may be received in addition thereto.

CHAPTER VIII

BOARD OF EDUCATION

I. Constitution and Officers

¶ 456. ARTICLE I. *Object and Purpose.* § 1. It is the object of this Board to serve as the officially authorized agency of the Methodist Episcopal Church in behalf of ministerial and general education, seeking to diffuse the blessings of education and Christianity throughout the United States, and to cooperate with other Boards in educational work under their care.

§ 2. This Board shall have an advisory relation to the business and educational management of all the schools and colleges of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, shall devise ways and means for the aid of institutions; and shall receive and disburse such funds as shall be committed to it from time to time. It may serve as a Board of Reference or Arbitration, and when necessary may take measures to protect the property interests of our educational institutions. It shall seek to promote general and theological education, and it shall have authority to devise plans for the religious care of students at tax-supported, independent or non-Methodist institutions; it shall seek to promote the cause of education throughout the Church by collecting and publishing statistics, by furnishing plans for educational buildings, by giving counsel with regard to the location and organization of institutions. It shall

also serve as a general agency for communication between teachers desiring employment and institutions needing their services.

¶ 457. ARTICLE II. *Government.* § 1. The management of its affairs and properties shall vest in a Board of Trustees which shall consist of thirty-six members, one half to be Laymen, and at least three to be Bishops, with at least one member resident in each General Conference District. These members shall be elected by the General Conference and shall hold office for twelve years. One third of the Board shall be elected at each General Conference, provided, that upon the first election one third of the members shall be elected for four years, one third for eight years, and one third for twelve years.

§ 2. Vacancies shall be filled by the Bishops or a majority of them, the appointees serving until the next succeeding General Conference.

¶ 458. ARTICLE III. *Officers.* § 1. The officers of this Board shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, and such other officers or agents, paid or unpaid, as the Board may from time to time determine. The officers, excepting such as are elected by the General Conference, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Board, and the By-laws shall prescribe the duties of each.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference, and under the provisions of the Discipline and the direction of the Board, he shall conduct its correspondence, and in all his official conduct shall be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by which his salary shall be fixed and paid. His time shall be employed in conducting the

affairs of the Board and, under its direction, in promoting its general interests by traveling or otherwise.

§ 3. Any vacancy in this office, caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board, until the Bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy, the appointee to hold office until the next succeeding General Conference.

¶ **459.** ARTICLE IV. *Meetings.* § 1. The Board shall hold an Annual Meeting at such time and place as it may determine, and such special meetings as from time to time may be necessary. Twelve members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

§ 2. The Board may also appoint an Executive Committee of such number as it may determine, and may commit to said Executive Committee such business or confer upon it such powers not inconsistent with the Charter or this Constitution as it may determine.

¶ **460.** ARTICLE V. *Activities of the Board.* § 1. It shall be the duty of the Board to receive and separately invest the money contributed prior to the first day of January, 1885, for the Sunday School Children's Fund commenced during the Centenary year. The interest and income thereof, aside from such sums as may be appropriated for administration expenses, shall be appropriated to the purpose of assisting meritorious Sunday School scholars, members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in obtaining more advanced education, preference being given to the aid of young persons preparing for the Ministry and the Home and Foreign Missionary work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. It shall devote the money derived from the

annual Sunday School Children's Day collections to the aid of needy students, and if any surplus remain in any year after appropriating so much of the principal sum received as may be necessary for such loans, gifts, or contributions, for this purpose, such surplus shall be added to the permanent Sunday School Children's Fund accumulated and invested by the said Board of Education prior to the first day of January, 1885.

§ 3. Each Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be entitled to share equitably in the income of the permanent Sunday School Children's Fund aforesaid and in the distribution of moneys annually received, provided, it takes annual collections for the said fund in the Sunday Schools within its bounds and forwards the same to the Board of Education.

§ 4. Aid shall be granted only in the form of loans; but, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, the Board shall have the authority to cancel said loans in part or in whole, for causes which seem to it sufficient.

§ 5. The Board shall receive and securely invest the principal of the Centenary Educational Fund other than the Sunday School Children's Fund, and shall appropriate the income therefrom to the aid of universities, colleges, academies, biblical or theological schools, or other institutions which are now in existence or which may hereafter be established with the approval of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church through this Board of Education; provided, that no institution not now in existence shall be aided by the Board unless the Board shall first have been consulted and shall have approved of

the establishment and organization of such institution before the project was undertaken.

§ 6. The Board shall administer all funds derived from Conference collections and other current contributions, and all undesignated funds committed to it for educational purposes.

§ 7. The Board shall seek to augment the Centenary Educational Fund for the aid of educational institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall have especial care of the schools among the highlanders of the South which were committed to this Board by the General Conference of 1908 for maintenance and administration.

§ 8. The Board may solicit, create, and administer a fund which shall aid in providing retiring allowances or pensions for the presidents, professors, teachers, and instructors of the educational institutions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and adopt rules and regulations for its administration.

§ 9. The Board shall have power to solicit and create any other special funds deemed wise in the carrying out of the objects and purposes of this Board, and administer the same under such rules and regulations as it may adopt.

¶ 461. ARTICLE VI.—*Finance Committee.* There shall be appointed annually five members of the Board who shall constitute a Standing Committee on Finance, to whose care and management shall be intrusted the funds of the corporation, the preparation of the annual budget, the fixing and changing of the official bond of the Treasurer, and the proper investment of the moneys of the corporation under the direction of the Board of Trustees. No investments or securities shall be changed by the Treasurer with-

out the consent of a majority of this committee first obtained by resolution adopted at a regular meeting thereof. Minutes of all the proceedings of the Finance Committee shall be kept and submitted to the stated meetings of the Board of Trustees for approval.

¶ 462. ARTICLE VII.—*Auxiliary Societies.* Educational societies created by Annual Conferences shall only be recognized as auxiliaries of the Board of Education when their objects and purposes, their articles of incorporation, and their methods of administration, are approved by the Board of Education and by the Annual Conference within whose bounds they are incorporated. All auxiliary societies thus formed shall be required to send annually a report of their doings to the Board of Education.

¶ 463. ARTICLE VIII.—*By-Laws.* The Board of Trustees may from time to time adopt By-Laws for the regulation of its affairs not inconsistent with the Charter and Constitution.

¶ 464. ARTICLE IX.—*Changes in Constitution.* This Constitution may be amended by the Board of Education with the approval of the General Conference, but not otherwise.

II. Annual Conference Board

¶ 465, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize within its bounds an Annual Conference Board of Education. This Annual Conference Board shall consist of at least one and not more than four Ministers and an equal number of Laymen for each District, as the Annual Conferences may determine, to be elected by the Annual Conference upon nomination by the Conference Committee

on Education, and shall hold office for three years. One third of the Board shall be elected at each session of the Annual Conference; provided, that upon the first election one third shall be elected for three years, one third for two years, and one third for one year. All presidents of colleges or universities, theological schools, and principals of secondary schools which are under the patronage of the Conference, and are approved by the University Senate of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be members *ex officio* of this Annual Conference Board.

§ 2. The Ministerial members of the Conference Board of Education shall constitute the Committee on Education, reporting the acts of the Conference Board of Education to the Annual Conference and reporting the instructions and acts of the Annual Conference relative to Education and Educational Institutions to the Annual Conference Board of Education.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the said Board (1) To organize by the election of a President and Secretary-Treasurer to serve one year or until their successors are elected, and to appoint such committees as are necessary to accomplish its work; (2) To hold at least one meeting each year for the consideration and promotion within the Annual Conference of the general and local interests of education, at which meeting the Corresponding Secretary or other representative of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be present if possible; (3) To provide for the visitation each year of the approved educational institutions within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and those under its patronage, and to make reports upon such institutions to the Annual Conference and to the Board of Education of

the Methodist Episcopal Church; (4) To provide for the presentation of the cause of education within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and assist as far as possible in taking the educational collection, and it may arrange for Conventions and other public educational meetings; (5) To have charge of the Anniversary of the Board of Education at the session of the Annual Conference; (6) To carry out the instructions of, and report its action to the Annual Conference: (7) To secure the names of the members of the Educational Committee on each Charge within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and as far as possible coordinate their work.

III. Educational Institutions

¶ 466. § 1. The educational institutions under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be classified as follows:

1. Primary Schools.
2. Secondary Schools.
3. Colleges.
4. Universities.
5. Schools of Theology.

§ 2. In Mission fields and elsewhere, if inadequate provision has been made for elementary instruction, primary schools may be established.

§ 3. Wherever the conditions are favorable, each Conference may have under its direct supervision one or more secondary schools known as academies, seminaries, or collegiate institutes.

§ 4. Conferences shall not approve the multiplication of colleges or universities beyond the needs of the people or their ability to equip and sustain them.

§ 5. Theological schools, whose professors are nominated or confirmed by the Bishops, exist for the benefit of the whole Church. It is the duty of the Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to direct the attention of our young people to our literary institutions, and of the candidates for the Ministry, having proper qualifications, to our theological seminaries.

§ 6. The Board of Education shall publish in its Annual Report a list of all the educational institutions under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, classifying the same according to the provisions contained in § 1 of this paragraph. It shall be the duty of the President or other administrative officer of each educational institution to furnish to the Board of Education such statistics or other information as may enable the Board to make a report of the standing and equipment of each of our schools.

IV. University Senate

¶ 467, § 1. There shall be a University Senate of the Methodist Episcopal Church, quadrennially appointed by the Bishops under the authority of the General Conference. It shall be composed of persons actively engaged in the work of education, one from each General Conference District and one at large. It is not required that the Conference relation of a ministerial member be held in the General Conference District which he represents, provided his residence and educational work are within such District. If, in consequence of the retirement of a member from educational work, or from any other cause, a vacancy occur in the body during the quadrennium,

it shall be the duty of the Bishops at their next semi-annual meeting to fill such vacancy.

§ 2. The Senate shall determine and at least quadrennially revise the minimum equivalents of academic work to be required for promotion to the Baccalaureate degrees in the educational institutions of the Church. The curricula thus determined shall provide for the historical and literary study of the Bible in the vernacular. In general, the Senate shall have authority to protect the educational standards of our Church.

§ 3. At the written request of the President and Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education, or at the written request of any three of its own members, the Senate shall investigate the scholastic requirements and methods of any designated institution claiming to be under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall report to the Board of Education its decision as to whether the requirements and methods of said institution are such as to justify its official recognition by the authorities of the Church. Such decision shall govern thereafter the action of the Board of Education.

§ 4. The Senate shall report at least quadrennially to the Board of Education its requirements and decisions, and on the basis of these the Board of Education shall in its official lists and in its administration classify the educational institutions of the Church, whatever their legal or self-chosen names may be.

V. District Superintendents

¶ 468, § 1. It shall be the duty of each District Superintendent to bring the subject of education

before the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge within his District, and the Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee on Education, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven persons, of which Committee the Pastor shall be Chairman. This Committee shall aid the Pastor in canvassing the Charge for the purpose of stimulating interest in the higher education of our youth, by distributing the catalogues and circulars of the secondary schools, colleges, universities, and theological institutions of the Church, and by seeking to secure the attendance of our young people upon these institutions.

§ 2. The District Superintendent at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each Pastoral Charge shall inquire:

(1) Has the Sermon on Education been preached during the year, when, and by whom?

(2) Has the canvass for education been made, and the collection for Education been taken? Has Children's Day been observed, and have its collections been taken as required by the Discipline? How much was contributed for each of these purposes?

(3) What students within the Pastoral Charge are attending any secondary school, college, university, or theological school?

(4) What young people within the Pastoral Charge should attend our schools and colleges in the near future? Have their names been sent to the educational institutions supported by the Conference?

§ 3. The District Superintendent shall forward the names secured as provided in § 2 (4) to the authorities in charge of the educational institution supported by the Annual Conference.

VI. Pastors

¶ 469, § 1. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to take one public collection annually in each Society in aid of the general work of education. Of the money so received, eighty per cent shall be paid to such institutions or to such auxiliaries of the Board of Education as the Annual Conference may direct, and twenty per cent shall be paid to the Board of Education. The moneys received by the Board of Education from this collection shall constitute a fund for the aid of institutions, which fund shall be administered by the Board of Education under such rules as it may adopt; provided, however, that all moneys received from the said public collections shall be entered in a separate account on the books of the Board of Education, and shall be used only for educational purposes in connection with our schools of learning in the United States.

§ 2. In the distribution of this fund the Board of Education shall give consideration by way of special appropriations to institutions during the period of endowment or building campaigns, and shall be authorized to pay over the twenty per cent received from the public educational collection, or so much of it as may be deemed advisable to institutions which are dependent upon exceptionally large Conference collections.

¶ 470. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause every Sunday School under his Charge to observe the second Sunday in June, or such other Sunday as may be more convenient, as Children's Day, and upon said day, as part of the service, he shall take a collection to be devoted to the Sunday School Children's Fund.

The Pastor shall forward the collection aforesaid directly to the Secretary of the Board of Education, and report the same to his Annual Conference under the head of "Children's Fund."

¶ **471.** The Treasurer of each Annual Conference at the close of each Conference session shall report to the Board of Education the amount of all moneys raised for educational purposes and the objects to which they have been applied.

CHAPTER IX

BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

I. Incorporation

¶ **472,** § 1. For the moral and religious instruction of our children, and for the promotion of Bible knowledge among all our people, there shall be a Board of Sunday Schools, duly incorporated according to the laws of the State of Illinois, and having its headquarters in the city of Chicago. The said Board shall have general oversight of all the Sunday School interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the General Conference from time to time may prescribe.

§ 2. The Board of Sunday Schools shall be composed of the Corresponding Secretary of said Board and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, who shall be *ex officio* members thereof; three effective Bishops, one member from each General Conference

District, who shall reside therein, and a sufficient number of members at large to make up the number of twenty-nine as the entire membership of said Board. There shall be both lay and clerical members, such as are expert in Sunday School work. All the members of said Board except the two *ex officio* members shall be elected by the General Conference upon nomination of the Board of Bishops.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of said Board to found Sunday Schools in needy neighborhoods; to contribute to the support of Sunday Schools requiring assistance; to educate the Church in all phases of Sunday School work, constantly endeavoring to raise ideals and improve methods; to determine the Sunday School curriculum, including the courses for teacher training; and, in general, to give impulse and direction to the study of the Bible in the Church. It shall also be the duty of said Board, after consultation with the Editor of Sunday School Publications, to recommend to the Book Committee the kind and character of literature, requisites, supplies, etc., needed for use in our Sunday Schools; and the Publishing Agents shall provide and publish such literature, requisites, and supplies as, in the judgment of the Book Committee, the best interests of the Church may demand. It shall also be the duty of said Board to promote such organizations of men as the organized Bible classes, Brotherhoods, and kindred organizations.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Board of Sunday Schools to revise annually its list of members. In case any member representing a General Conference District remove therefrom, it shall declare his office vacant, and in case any member be inattentive to the

duties of his office, or guilty of improper conduct, it may remove him by a majority vote of all of the members of said Board. All vacancies in said Board may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members thereof.

§ 5. The executive officers of the Board shall be the Corresponding Secretary and the Editor of Sunday School Publications, whose duties shall be as hereinafter defined.

§ 6. The German Editor of Sunday School Publications in Cincinnati shall be the German Assistant Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, without additional salary. He shall also be an advisory member of the Board.

II. Corresponding Secretary

¶ 473, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially a Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the authority, direction, and control of said Board, he shall conduct its correspondence and business, except in so far as they relate to the duties of the Editor of Sunday School Publications. It shall be his duty to recommend to the Book Committee the preparation and publication of such Sunday School requisites and supplies as in his judgment may be necessary. His salary shall be fixed by the Board of Sunday Schools and paid out of the funds thereof. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools may be suspended by said Board for any cause it may deem sufficient. In case of such suspension said Board shall fix a time, at as early a

date as practicable, for the investigation of his conduct, and shall send due notice thereof to the Board of Bishops, who shall select one of their number to be present and preside at said investigation. After such investigation, said Corresponding Secretary may be removed by a majority vote of the entire Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 3. Any vacancy in this office caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board until the Bishops, or a majority of them, shall fill the vacancy.

III. Editor of Sunday School Publications

¶ 474, § 1. The General Conference shall elect quadrennially an Editor of Sunday School Publications.

§ 2. He shall prepare and edit all books and literature included in the Sunday School Curriculum, and all other required Sunday School publications.

§ 3. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board of Sunday Schools, but his salary shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Publishing Agents. He shall be amenable to the Book Committee as provided in the Discipline.

IV. Other Officers

¶ 475, § 1. The Board shall elect from among its members a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. It may, at its discretion, elect an Assistant Corresponding Secretary and such other Assistants as it may deem necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the work of the Board.

§ 2. All these officers shall be amenable to the Board for the faithful performance of their duties and may be discontinued or removed by a majority vote of the Board. Their compensation shall be fixed by the Board and paid out of its funds.

V. Conference Board of Sunday Schools

¶ 476, § 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize a Conference Board of Sunday Schools. Said Board shall consist of the Superintendent of each District *ex officio* and an equal number of Laymen and Ministers from each District. The Conference Board shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church and shall have oversight of the Sunday School interests of the Conference, and shall cooperate with the General Board in promoting the Sunday School work of the Conference and of the denomination at large.

§ 2. Among the duties of the Conference Board shall be the holding of Sunday School Institutes and other meetings of Sunday School workers, the presentation of Standard requirements for Methodist Episcopal Sunday Schools, the recommendation of the lesson helps authorized by the General Conference, the distribution of literature issued by the Board of Sunday Schools and the Methodist Book Concern, the stimulation of effective Sunday School organization, instruction and equipment, the promotion of Sunday School growth and extension, the encouragement of wise plans for Evangelistic efforts in the Sunday Schools and the promotion of the financial interests of the General Board of Sunday Schools. This Board

shall take the place of the Annual Conference Committee on Sunday Schools and make an annual report of Sunday School conditions and progress to the Conference and to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

VI. Local Sunday School Board

¶ 477, § 1. Every Sunday School of the Methodist Episcopal Church shall be under the supervision of a Local Sunday School Board, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

§ 2. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* Chairman, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, and all other officers and teachers of the Sunday School elected or confirmed by the Local Board. In case of the withdrawal of Officers and Teachers from the school, they shall cease to be members of the Board.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Local Sunday School Board, wherever practicable, to organize the Sunday Schools into Temperance Societies, under such rules and regulations as the Local Board may prescribe. The duty of such Societies shall be to see that temperance instruction is imparted in the Sunday School, and to secure, so far as possible, the pledging of its members to total abstinence.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the local Sunday School Board to promote the standard requirements for Methodist Episcopal Sunday Schools as determined by the General Board of Sunday Schools, and espe-

cially shall it be the duty of the Local Sunday School Board to provide a class or classes for the training of officers and teachers in the principles and methods of religious education and Sunday School work.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent, together with the Local Sunday School Board, to observe Sunday School Rally Day in each School under his charge as provided in ¶ 480, § 6, and to take a collection in said School at least once a year for the Board of Sunday Schools.

VII. Sunday School Officers and Teachers

¶ 478, § 1. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its first session after such election, and in case of a vacancy the Pastor shall superintend or secure the superintending of the School until such time as a Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board shall be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference.

§ 2. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 3. The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and shall be elected annually by the Local Sunday School Board.

§ 4. The place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglectful, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two-thirds of the Local Sunday School Board present

at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, his membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

§ 5. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to report to each Quarterly Conference:

1. Name of Sunday School.
2. Number of officers and teachers.
3. Scholars—not including Home Department and Cradle Roll.
4. Members in Home Department.
5. Children on Cradle Roll.
6. Total enrollment in all departments, including Cradle Roll, Home Department, Scholars, Officers and Teachers.
7. Average attendance.
8. Members of school who are Church Members, or Preparatory Members, (a) Teachers and Officers; (b) Home Department; (c) other scholars not including Cradle Roll.
9. Professed conversions of Members of the Sunday School.
10. Accessions to the Church from the Sunday School.
11. Current expenses.
12. Given for Missions.
13. Given for Board of Sunday Schools.
14. Other benevolent collections.
15. To what extent are the schools graded?
16. Are the Sunday Schools furnished with the publications authorized by our Church? Graded or uniform lessons?
17. Have the Sunday Schools Missionary Superintendents and Committees?

18. Are they organized into Temperance Societies?
19. Miscellaneous.

NOTE.—He shall also, at the Fourth Quarterly Conference, render an annual report on the above items.

VIII. District Superintendents

¶ **479.** § 1. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to aid in all possible ways in developing the efficiency of the Sunday Schools of his district. He shall be especially required to promote graded organization, graded instruction, teacher training, and Evangelism; he shall also urge in all Schools the use of the literature authorized by the General Conference published by The Methodist Book Concern. He shall provide an annual institute for the instruction and training of the Sunday School workers of his District in the most effective methods of Sunday School work.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendent to bring the subject of Sunday Schools before the fourth Quarterly Conference; and said Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee of members of our Church of not less than three nor more than nine for each Sunday School in the Charge, to be called the Committee on Sunday Schools, whose duty shall be as hereinafter described.

IX. Pastors

¶ **480.** § 1. It shall be the duty of the Pastor, aided by the Superintendent and the Committee on Sunday Schools, to decide as to what books and other publications shall be used in the Sunday Schools.

§ 2. It shall be the special duty of the Pastor, with

the aid of the other Preachers and the Committee on Sunday Schools, to form Sunday Schools in all our Congregations where ten persons can be collected for that purpose, which Schools shall be auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church; to engage the cooperation of as many of our members as he can; to visit the Schools as often as practicable; to preach on the subject of Sunday Schools and the religious instruction of children in each Congregation at least once in six months; to form classes, wherever practicable, for the instruction of the larger children, youth, and adults in the Word of God; and where he cannot superintend them personally, to see that suitable Teachers are provided for that purpose.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Pastor faithfully to enforce upon parents and Sunday School Teachers the great importance of instructing children in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion; to see that our Catechisms be used as extensively as possible in our Sunday Schools and families; and to preach to the children and catechize them publicly in the Sunday Schools and at public meetings appointed for that purpose.

§ 4. It shall be the duty of the Pastor in his Pastoral visits to pay special attention to the children; to speak to them personally and kindly according to their capacity on the subject of experimental and practical godliness; to pray earnestly for them; and diligently to instruct and exhort all parents to dedicate their children to the Lord in Baptism as early as convenient.

§ 5. Each Pastor shall lay before the Quarterly Conference, to be entered on its Journal, the number

and state of the Sunday Schools in his Pastoral Charge, and the extent to which he has preached to the children and catechized them, and shall make the required report on Sunday Schools to his Annual Conference.

§ 6. It shall be the duty of every Pastor to cause each Church under his Charge to observe the first Sunday in October, or such other Sunday as may be more convenient, as Sunday School Rally Day, and upon said day as part of the service he shall take a collection to be devoted to the maintenance and advancement of Sunday School work throughout the bounds of the Church. The Pastor shall forward the said collection directly to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools.

§ 7. The monthly Missionary offering taken in the Sunday School, as provided in ¶ 428, § 5, shall be divided as follows: to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent; to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, forty-five per cent; and to the Board of Sunday Schools, ten per cent.

X. Quarterly Conference Sunday School Committee

¶ 481, § 1. It shall be the duty of the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference to be in regular attendance at the Sunday School session, and to assist the Pastor and the local Sunday School Board; to secure needed supplies and requisites for the Sunday School; and to cooperate in providing facilities for the week-day recreational life of the young people.

§ 2. It shall further secure adequate time for the

Sunday School session; provide for a Sunday School anniversary in the Church service every year; promote an annual house-to-house visitation to increase Sunday School membership. Bible study and family worship in the home, and also aim to secure every member of the Church as a member of some department of the Sunday School.

CHAPTER X

BOARD OF CONFERENCE CLAIMANTS

I. Authorization

¶ 482. § 1. There shall be a Board of Conference Claimants, nominated by the Bishops and elected by the General Conference, consisting of one effective Bishop, seven Ministers and eight Laymen; also the Corresponding Secretary, *ex officio*. No Annual Conference shall have more than one representative on the Board.

§ 2. The Bishop and the Corresponding Secretary shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference. The other members of the Board shall be divided into two classes:

Class I shall consist of four Laymen and four Ministers who shall be elected to serve for eight years.

Class II shall consist of four Laymen and three Ministers who shall be elected to serve for four years. The General Conference of 1920 and subsequent General Conferences shall elect for a term of eight years the class whose term of service expires and shall fill vacancies in the classes. Vacancies occurring during

the interval of the General Conference shall be filled until the session of the next General Conference by the Board, on nomination of the Bishops.

§ 3. The Board of Conference Claimants shall be duly and legally incorporated, according to the laws of the State of Illinois, with such powers and prerogatives as shall be needed for the accomplishing of the objects of the Board, as herein stated. This Board is authorized to adopt such measures as in its judgment are necessary to build up and administer a Connectional Permanent Fund which is hereby established, and to increase the revenues for the benefit of Conference Claimants. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. The office of the Board shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

II. Officers

¶ **483,** § 1. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary who shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the chief executive officer of the Board. Under the provisions of the Discipline and the authority, direction and control of the Board, he shall conduct the correspondence and business, and promote the general interests of the Board.

§ 2. The other Officers of the Board shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by the Board and shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices. The Board may elect a Recording Secretary and Treasurer outside of its own membership, or may elect as Treasurer any responsible bank or trust company, duly organized and incorporated under the laws of the United States or any state.

III. Administration

¶ 484, § 1. The Board of Conference Claimants at its Annual Meeting shall determine what amount shall be required for maintaining and promoting the work of the Board (not including the connectional dividend), and shall present this amount to the Commission on Finance to be included in the askings of the Commission, in common with those of the other Boards; provided, however, that the amount asked for shall not exceed $50,000 annually.

§ 2. The expenses of administration, and the carrying forward of the campaign in the Annual Conferences, shall be taken from the fund provided for in § 1 of this paragraph, apportioned according to ¶ 336, and any other funds in the hands of the Board not otherwise designated.

IV. Connectional Relief

¶ 485, § 1. Connectional Relief for Conference Claimants is established that the Preachers and people of the stronger Annual Conferences may be united with those of the weaker Conferences in one connectional or general plan in order that, by such cooperation, a more equitable and general support may be secured for Retired Ministers and other Conference Claimants, especially for those in the more needy Conferences.

§ 2. Such Connectional Relief shall consist of (1) The income from the Connectional Permanent Fund; (2) The income from all other sources the use of which is not otherwise designated and which is not required for the maintenance of the Board.

V. Administration of Connectional Relief

¶ 486, § 1. Moneys for Connectional Relief shall be distributed by the Board of Conference Claimants at its Annual Meeting, to the Annual Conferences severally and not to the individual claimant.

§ 2. The Board of Conference Claimants, in determining the Dividend for Connectional Relief, shall ascertain from the authorized reports of the Conference Stewards of the several Annual Conferences what Conferences are in need of Connectional Relief, and shall make the distribution to such Conferences according to their need as this shall appear from such reports.

§ 3. The remainder of the available funds shall be distributed among the other Conferences as the Board of Conference Claimants may determine to be wise and equitable in view of all the data in its possession.

VI. Reports

¶ 487, § 1. The Treasurer of the Board of Conference Claimants shall send to the Treasurer of the Annual Conference a draft for the Dividend for Connectional Relief, together with the last Annual Report of the Board, in which shall be shown the resources of the Board, the amount and distribution of its income, and such other information concerning the work of the Church in behalf of Conference Claimants as the Board may obtain.

§ 2. The Conference Stewards shall forward to the Board of Conference Claimants a certified copy of their Report, made on blanks furnished by the Board of Conference Claimants, in which shall be shown the annuities and allowances made to each Confer-

ence Claimant, together with additional data for the guidance of the Board of Conference Claimants in making its Dividend for Connectional Relief and in preparing its Annual Report.

CHAPTER X

EPWORTH LEAGUE

I. Constitution

¶ 488. For the purpose of promoting intelligent and vital piety among the young people of our Churches and Congregations, and of training them in works of mercy and help, there shall be an organization under the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and governed by the following Constitution:

CONSTITUTION

§ 1. ARTICLE I. *Name.* The title of this organization shall be "The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

§ 2. ARTICLE II. *Object.* The object of the League shall be to promote intelligent and vital piety in the young members and friends of the Church, to aid them in the attainment of purity of heart and constant growth in grace, and to train them in works of mercy and help.

§ 3. ARTICLE III. *Organization.* With a view of carrying out the objects of the League, the chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may be

approved by the Quarterly Conferences shall be organized into District Superintendents' District Leagues, and may also be formed into General Conference District Leagues. The District Superintendent shall be *ex officio* a member of the District Cabinet. Other groupings may be arranged for the advantage of the work, such as Annual Conference Leagues, State Leagues, and City Leagues, and whenever such organization shall be made it shall become thereby a regular Disciplinary organization within the provisions of this section. The Chapter shall be under the control of the Quarterly Conference and Pastor. Any Young People's Society may become an affiliated Chapter of the Epworth League, provided that it adopt the aims of the League, that its President and other Officers and its general plans of work are approved by the Pastor and Official Board or Quarterly Conference, and that it is enrolled at the Central Office.

§ 4. ARTICLE IV. *Government.* The management of the Epworth League shall be vested in a Board of Control, which shall consist of a Bishop, the General Secretary, the Editor of the *Epworth Herald*, and one member from each General Conference District, nominated by the delegates of the respective General Conference Districts and elected by the General Conference. There shall also be three members at large, consisting of two Laymen and one Minister, appointed by the Board of Bishops. The Bishop shall be President of the Epworth League and of the Board of Control. The German Assistant Secretary, the Assistant Secretary of the Colored Conferences, and the Assistant Secretary of the Junior League shall be advisory members of the Board of Control. In case

of a vacancy in the office of General Secretary during the quadrennium, the same shall be filled by the Board of Control. Any vacancy occurring in the District membership of the Board of Control by a District member's removal from the District from which he was elected, or by any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by the Board of Control from the Conference to which said member belonged. The Board of Control shall meet at least four times during each quadrennium.

§ 5. ARTICLE V. *Officers.* The Officers of the League shall be a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President shall be chosen as hereinbefore provided. The Vice-President and Recording Secretary shall be chosen by the Board of Control from its own body. The General Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall be the executive officer of the League. He shall have charge of the correspondence, shall keep the records of the League, and may speak or provide speakers for Annual Conference anniversaries, and perform such other duties as the Board of Control may direct. The Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall perform such duties as relate to the editorial departments of Epworth League publications. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board of Control.

These Officers shall be elected quadrennially, and shall hold office until their successors are chosen.

Vacancies in any of the above-mentioned positions, except the Presidency and the Editorship of the *Epworth Herald*, shall be filled by the Board of Control.

§ 6. ARTICLE VI. *German Assistant Secretary.* The Editor of *Haus und Herd* is constituted the German Assistant Secretary of the Epworth League.

§ 7. ARTICLE VII. *Assistant Secretary for Colored Conferences.* There shall be an Assistant Secretary of the Epworth League for work within colored Conferences, to be elected quadrennially by the Board of Control, who shall perform such duties as the Board of Control may direct.

§ 8. ARTICLE VIII. *Finances.* The salary of the Editor of the *Epworth Herald* shall be fixed by the Book Committee and paid by the Book Concern. The salaries of the General Secretary and Assistant Secretary for work within colored Conferences shall be fixed by the Board of Control, and shall be paid, together with such administrative expenses as may be authorized by the Board of Control, and in such amount as the Board of Control may designate, from contributions by the Local Chapters, and the profits on Epworth League publications and supplies.

§ 9. ARTICLE IX. *Central Office.* The Central Office of the Epworth League shall be in Chicago, Illinois.

§ 10. ARTICLE X. *Local Constitution.* The Constitution for Local Chapters shall be determined by the Board of Control; provided, however, that no enactment shall be made which shall in any manner conflict with this General Constitution.

§ 11. ARTICLE XI. *By-Laws.* The Board of Control shall have power to enact such By-Laws for its own government as will not conflict with this Constitution.

§ 12. ARTICLE XII. *Amendments.* This Constitution shall be altered or amended only by the General Conference.

II. Presidents of Local Chapters

¶ 489. The President of an Epworth League Chapter must be a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and shall be elected by the Chapter and confirmed by the Quarterly Conference, of which body he shall then become a member if approved by it for membership therein. It shall be his duty to present to the Quarterly Conference a report of his Chapter, together with such other information as the Conference may require and he may be able to give.

III. District Superintendents and Pastors

¶ 490. It shall be the duty of the District Superintendents when holding District or Quarterly Conferences to inquire into the condition of Epworth League Chapters and such other Young People's Societies as may be under the control of the Quarterly and District Conferences, and to ascertain whether they are conducting their affairs in harmony with the purpose and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

¶ 491. It shall be the duty of Pastors to organize and maintain, if practicable, Chapters of the Epworth League.

CHAPTER XII

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

See ¶ 578.

CHAPTER XIII

BOARD OF TEMPERANCE, PROHIBITION, AND PUBLIC MORALS

¶ 492, § 1. In order to make more effectual the efforts of the Church to create public sentiment and crystallize the same into successful opposition to the organized traffic in intoxicating liquors, the General Conference hereby authorizes the organization of a Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church under the following constitution:

§ 2. ARTICLE I. The object of this Board is to promote voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants and narcotics by the members of the Church, Sunday School, Junior and Epworth Leagues, and to secure the speedy enactment of statutory and constitutional laws prohibiting the traffic in alcoholic liquors.

§ 3. ARTICLE II. The management of this Society shall be vested in a Board of Managers consisting of a Bishop, who shall be the President, and twenty persons at least two thirds of whom shall reside in the territory in, near or convenient of access to Washington, D. C. These shall be nominated by the Board of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. The Board of Managers shall meet annually, and at such annual meetings shall fill vacancies in the Board caused by death, resignation, or otherwise.

§ 4. ARTICLE III. The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President shall be a Bishop, chosen by the Board of Bishops, and the other officers shall be elected by

the Board of Managers at its first meeting, which shall be held within two months of the adjournment of the General Conference, at which meeting the Board shall have power to fill any vacancies in these offices other than that of President, and to elect such additional field and office representatives as shall be required to conduct its work. These shall be nominated annually by the General Secretary of the Board. The central office of the Society shall be located at Washington, D. C., and the Board of Managers shall have the power to enact such By-laws and to employ such representatives in its work for the field and office as it may deem necessary upon the nomination of its General Secretary, who shall be elected quadrennially by the Board of Managers. He shall be *ex officio* a member of the Board and its Executive Officer.

§ 5. ARTICLE IV. It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to represent the Church officially in every wise movement for the promotion of voluntary personal total abstinence and the securing of legal prohibition of the liquor traffic; to publish, approve and distribute literature on the liquor traffic, the use of narcotics and manufactured articles containing a large per cent of alcoholic liquors, to devise such plans and make such advices as shall enable the Church most successfully to compass the overthrow of that great foe of society, the legalized liquor traffic, to make such use of the money paid into its treasury as the work demands, and to publish an annual report of its work and to make a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

§ 6. ARTICLE V. Each Annual Conference shall form within its bounds a Conference Board of Temperance

and Prohibition, which shall elect its own Officers, who shall be subordinate to the General Board of Temperance, and in harmony with its plans shall promote the temperance reform within said Conference boundaries. It shall elect a Conference Committee in each District Superintendent's District consisting of the District Superintendent and two others nominated by the District Superintendents and elected by the Conference. It shall be the duty of the District Committee to cooperate with all reliable temperance organizations and to give all possible aid in no-license campaigns. At each session of the Annual Conference a mass meeting or an anniversary of the Board of Temperance shall be held in the interest of Temperance and Prohibition under the direction of the General Board of the Church.

§ 7. ARTICLE VI. It shall be the duty of Pastors, with the aid of their Committee on Temperance, to present annually to each congregation the cause of temperance and to ask a public collection and contribution for the support of the same, which collections and contributions shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of Temperance and reported to the Annual Conference in the same manner that other benevolences are reported. It shall be the duty of Pastors to see that each Sunday School is organized into a Temperance Society, that temperance instruction be given, and that, as far as possible, the members of the school and the young people within the reach of the Church shall be pledged to total abstinence. The District Superintendent, at the fourth Quarterly Conference, shall inquire if the requirements of this article have been observed.

CHAPTER XIV

GENERAL DEACONESS BOARD

See ¶¶ 229-240.

CHAPTER XV

CHARTERED FUND

¶ 493, § 1. To make further provision for distressed Effective Ministers, for the families of Effective Ministers, for Retired Ministers, and for the widows and orphans of Ministers, there shall be a Chartered Fund, to be supported by voluntary contributions; the principal of which shall be funded under the direction of Trustees chosen by the General Conference, and the interest applied under the direction of the General Conference, according to the following regulations, namely:

§ 2. The District Superintendents and the Pastors shall be collectors and receivers of subscriptions for this Fund.

§ 3. The money shall be sent to the General Publishing Agents, who shall pay it to the Trustees of the Fund. Otherwise it shall be brought to the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. The interest shall be divided into as many equal parts as there are Annual Conferences, and each Annual Conference shall have authority to draw one of these parts out of the Fund; and if one or more Conferences shall draw out of this Fund in any given year less than one of these parts, then in such

case or cases the other Annual Conferences, held in the same year, shall have authority, if they judge it necessary, to draw out of the Fund such surplus of the interest as has not been applied by the former Conferences. The Bishops shall bring the necessary information of the state of the interest of the Fund, respecting the year in question, from Conference to Conference.

§ 5. All drafts on the Chartered Fund shall be made on the Treasurer of the said Fund, by order of the Annual Conference, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of the said Conference.

§ 6. The money subscribed for the Chartered Fund may be lodged, on proper securities, in the respective States in which it has been subscribed under the direction of deputies living in such States respectively; provided, that such securities be accepted and such deputies be appointed as shall be approved by the Trustees in Philadelphia, and the stock in which it is proposed to invest the money be sufficiently productive to give satisfaction to the Trustees.

¶ **494.** The Board of Trustees shall have power to fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, subject, however, to the approval of the first General Conference that may be held after such vacancy or vacancies shall have occurred.

PART VIII
BOUNDARIES

I. DETERMINING BOUNDARIES
II. BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES
III. BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS
IV. CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES
V. ENABLING ACTS

CHAPTER I

DETERMINING BOUNDARIES

¶ 495. The General Conference shall appoint a Committee on Boundaries, consisting of two members, one Minister and one Layman, from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the delegations severally, over which one of the Bishops shall preside, of which one of the General Conference Secretaries shall be the Secretary, and of which Committee thirty-five shall be a quorum. All matters pertaining to Conference lines shall be referred to this Committee; and when the Committee shall have fixed the boundaries of all the Conferences, it shall submit its report to the General Conference, which shall immediately act upon the same as a whole without amendment and without debate; provided, however, that in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 95, § 6, a Central Mission Conference may fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within its bounds, the General Conference first having determined the number of Annual Conferences that may be allowed in that field.

¶ 496. Any two or more Conferences which may be mutually interested in the readjustment of their common boundaries may at any time raise a Joint Commission, consisting of five members from each Conference directly interested, and the decision of such Joint Commission, in which it shall be necessary for a majority of the five members representing each of said Conferences to concur, when it shall be ap-

proved by the Bishop or Bishops who may preside at these Conferences at their sessions next ensuing, shall be final. But if the Commission so appointed shall fail to agree, or if the presiding Bishop shall not concur, then the case, with a statement of the facts, together with the records of the Commission, shall come to the General Conference for final adjudication.

¶ 497. No petition, resolution, or memorial involving change of boundaries of Annual Conferences, or Mission Conferences, or the division or absorption of Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences, or the organization of new Annual Conferences or Mission Conferences out of the territory already occupied by organized Conferences, shall be entertained by the Committee on Boundaries until legal notice[1] shall have been given by the Secretary of the Annual Conference or Conferences, the Mission Conference or Missions desiring such change, or by a majority of the District Superintendents and Mission Superintendents thereof to the Secretaries of all the Annual Conferences and Mission Conferences affected thereby; providing, however, that, upon a petition of a majority of the delegates representing the Annual Conference or Conferences to be affected thereby, the Committee on Boundaries may adjust the matters involved in such petition, subject to the approval of all the Annual and Mission Conferences named in such petition at their annual sessions next succeeding the General Conference.

[1] See Appendix, ¶ 570.

CHAPTER II

BOUNDARIES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES

I. United States and Territories

¶ 498, § 1. ALABAMA CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Alabama and in that part of the State of Florida west of the Apalachicola River; and also the work among the white people within the territory of the Upper Mississippi Conference.

§ 2. ARKANSAS CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Arkansas and in that part of the State of Oklahoma east of and adjacent to the Port Arthur & Gulf Railroad, along the west line of the State of Arkansas.

§ 3. ATLANTA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Georgia not included in the Savannah Conference.

§ 4. BALTIMORE CONFERENCE shall include the District of Columbia, the western shore of Maryland, (except that part of Garrett County lying west of the dividing ridge of the Allegheny Mountains, Grantsville, Swanton, Bayard, Blaine and Gormania) so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies within Hancock, Flintstone, Union Grove, and Hyndman Circuits; the counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral and Grant in the State of West Virginia; and that part of the State of Virginia lying between the Wilmington and West Virginia Conferences.

§ 5. BLUE RIDGE-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE shall include

the work among the white people in the State of North Carolina, and in the counties of Mecklenburg, Brunswick, Greenesville, Southampton, Nansemond, Norfolk, and Princess Anne in the State of Virginia; and in the counties of Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, York, Chester, Union, Anderson, Laurens, Abbeville, Newberry, and Fairfield in the State of South Carolina.

§ 6. California Conference shall include that part of the State of California lying west of the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and north of the northern boundary of the Southern California Conference.

§ 7. California German Conference shall include the German work within the State of California.

§ 8. Central Alabama Conference shall include the colored work in the State of Alabama and in that part of Florida west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 9. Central German Conference shall comprise the German work within the States of Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, and Indiana except those appointments which belong at present to the Chicago German Conference; also the German work in Western Pennsylvania, and in the Southern States not included in the East German, Saint Louis German, and Southern German Conferences, exclusive of Emmanuel Church, Williams County, Ohio.

§ 10. Central Illinois Conference shall embrace that part of the State of Illinois north of the Illinois Conference and south of the following lines, namely: beginning on the Mississippi River at Albany; thence southeasterly to the northwest corner of Bureau County; thence east to the southwest corner of Lee County; thence south to the Chicago, Burlington &

Quincy Railway crossing of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway; thence along said railway to Bureau Junction; thence to the Illinois River; thence up said river to the mouth of the Kankakee River, leaving Albany, Leon, and Ottawa in the Rock River Conference, and Bureau Junction in the Central Illinois Conference; thence up the Kankakee River to a point directly west of the north line of Kankakee County; thence east to the Indiana line.

§ 11. CENTRAL MISSOURI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Missouri, Iowa, and that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the following line: Beginning at the city of Cairo, and running north along the Illinois Central Railroad to the city of Mendota, and including all the towns on said line of railroad; thence north to the Wisconsin State line, and thence west along said State line to the Mississippi River.

§ 12. CENTRAL NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the west by the west lines of the towns of Williamson, Marion, and Palmyra, in Wayne County, and of the towns of Farmington and Canandaigua, in Ontario County, and of Yates and Schuyler Counties, and of the towns of Hornby and Canton, in Steuben County; and in the State of Pennsylvania by the railroad running from Lawrenceville to Blossburg, including Mansfield and Blossburg Charges; on the south by Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the east by Wyoming and Northern New York Conferences; on the north by Northern New York Conference and Lake Ontario.

§ 13. CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: On the south by the State line from the Susquehanna River to the west boundary

of Bedford County, excepting so much of the State of Pennsylvania as is included in the Baltimore Conference, on the west by the west line of the Counties of Bedford, Blair, that part of Cambria County not included in the Pittsburgh Conference, viz.: Patton, Bakerton, and Barnesboro, including Cherry Tree and Glen Campbell and Smithport in Indiana County, Clearfield County, north to Saint Mary's; excepting so much of Clearfield County as is embraced in the Erie Conference; on the north by a line extending from Saint Mary's eastward to Emporium, including Keating Summit Circuit; thence by the southern boundary of Potter and Tioga Counties, including Austin, Costello, Wharton Circuit, Cross Fork, Hammersley Fort Circuit, Morris, Blackwell, and Liberty Valley Circuits; thence through Sullivan County north of Laporte to the west line of Wyoming County; thence on the east by the present limits of the Wyoming Conference, being the east line of Sullivan County, to the north line of Columbia County; thence a line southeasterly through Luzerne County to the north line of the Philadelphia Conference, near White Haven; thence on the south by the northern line of Carbon, Schuylkill, and Dauphin Counties to the Susquehanna River, including Hickory Run, Weatherly, Beaver Meadows, and Ashland; and thence by the Susquehanna River to the place of beginning, including Harrisburg and Riverside.

§ 14. Central Swedish Conference shall include all of the Swedish work within the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, the city of Racine, in the State of Wisconsin, and also the Swedish work in the State of New York west of the Genesee River, and in the State of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River.

§ 15. CENTRAL TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in all that part of the State of Tennessee west of and excluding the counties of Marion, Grundy, Van Buren, Cumberland, and Fentress.

§ 16. CHICAGO GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of Wisconsin, except those appointments along the Mississippi River, and in that part of the State of Illinois north of an east and west line passing along the north line of the city of Bloomington, excepting the territory now in the Saint Louis German Conference, and east of a north and south line passing through the city of Freeport; and in that part of the State of Indiana west of the line between the counties of Saint Joseph and Elkhart, and north of the line between Stark and Pulaski Counties. It shall also include Danville, in the State of Illinois, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

§ 17. COLORADO CONFERENCE shall include the State of Colorado and Chama in New Mexico.

§ 18. COLUMBIA RIVER CONFERENCE shall include the counties of Wasco, Umatilla, Crook, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler, Hood River, and Jefferson in the State of Oregon; and all of the counties in the State of Washington east of the summit of the Cascade Mountains; and in the State of Idaho, the counties of Shoshone, Kootnai, Beneway, Bonner, Boundary, Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, and all of Idaho County lying north of a line running parallel with the Salmon River ten miles south of said river.

§ 19. DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include the State of South Dakota.

§ 20. DELAWARE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Delaware, New Jersey, and

New York, excepting the colored work in the boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan in the city of New York; all of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and all of the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania not included in the Washington Conference.

§ 21. Des Moines Conference shall include that part of the State of Iowa west and south of the following lines: Beginning at the southeast corner of Wayne County; thence north to the south line of Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Conference and the Monroe Charge in the Des Moines Conference; thence west to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the northeast corner of Story County; thence west to the northeast corner of Crawford County; thence south to the north line of township eighty-three; thence west to the east line of Monona County; thence south and west on the line of Monona County to the Missouri River.

§ 22. Detroit Conference shall include that part of the State of Michigan in the Lower Peninsula east of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said county; thence north to the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of Charlevoix County; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw including Mackinaw City. It shall also include the Upper Peninsula.

§ 23. East German Conference shall embrace all the German work east of the Allegheny Mountains, including all the German work in the State of New York.

§ 24. East Maine Conference shall include that part of the State of Maine not included in the Maine Conference.

§ 25. EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Tennessee which is not in the Tennessee Conference; in that part of the State of Virginia west of and including the counties of Carroll, Floyd, Montgomery, and Giles; and in the counties of Mercer, Wyoming, and McDowell, in the State of West Virginia.

§ 26. EASTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in the six New England States, the States of New Jersey and Delaware, and the territory included in the New York, New York East, and Philadelphia Conferences.

§ 27. ERIE CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by Lake Erie; on the East by a line commencing at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek; thence up said creek to Gowanda, leaving said town in the Genesee Conference; thence to the Allegheny River at the mouth of the Tunungwant Creek; thence up said creek southward, excluding the city of Bradford on said creek to the ridge dividing between the waters of Clarion and Sinnemahoning Creeks; thence southward to Mahoning Creek; thence down said creek to the Allegheny River, excluding the Milton Society, but including Valier and the Horatio Society, in the Grace Church, Punxsutawney Charge, and Hamilton in the Valier Charge, the Putneyville Society in the Putneyville Circuit, and that portion of the borough of Punxsutawney lying south and east of Mahoning Creek; thence across said river in a northwesterly direction to the southwest corner of Lawrence County, including Wampum; thence along the Ohio State line to the place of beginning, excluding Orangeville Church.

§ 28. FLORIDA CONFERENCE shall include the colored

work in the State of Florida except that part lying west of the Apalachicola River, and that part south of parallel twenty-nine.

§ 29. Genesee Conference shall include all that part of the State of New York lying west of the Central New York Conference except that part of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties which is now included in the Erie Conference. It shall also include Gowanda and Corning, in the State of New York, and so much of Tioga County, including Tioga Charge, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not embraced in the Central New York Conference; also so much of Potter County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is not included in Central Pennsylvania Conference; also including so much of McKean County, in the State of Pennsylvania, as is embraced in the Olean District, including the city of Bradford; also the Norwegian and Danish work in the city of Buffalo.

§ 30. Georgia Conference shall include work among the white people in the State of Georgia and the "Copperhill Basin" in the State of Tennessee.

§ 31. Gulf Conference shall include the white English, Italian, and French-speaking work in the State of Louisiana; also that portion of the State of Texas separated from the Oklahoma Conference by a line beginning at the city of Brownsville, Texas, running northwest along the Rio Grande River to Devil's River, a point on the Southern Pacific Railroad; thence east along the Southern Pacific Railroad to San Antonio; thence northeast along the International & Great Northern Railroad through the City of Austin to Hearne; thence north along the Houston & Texas Railroad to Ennis; thence northeast along the Texas Midland and the Frisco Railroads to the

Red River, all intermediate points to be in the Gulf Conference; also the work among the white people within the territory of the Mississippi Conference.

§ 32. HOLSTON CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in that part of the State of Tennessee not included in the Central Tennessee Conference and the "Copperhill Basin" assigned to the Georgia Conference; and including that part of the State of Virginia embraced between the West Virginia and Blue Ridge-Atlantic Conferences.

§ 33. IDAHO CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Idaho not embraced in the Columbia River Conference, together with the following named territory of the State of Oregon; namely, the counties of Baker, Malheur, Harney, Grant, Wallowa, and Union.

§ 34. ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Illinois not within the Southern Illinois Conference, south of the following line, namely: Beginning at Warsaw, on the Mississippi River; thence to Vermont; thence to the mouth of the Spoon River; thence up the Illinois River to the northwest corner of Mason County; thence to the junction of the Illinois Central and the Chicago & Alton Railroads; thence to the southwest corner of Iroquois County; thence east to the State of Indiana, leaving Bentley, Vermont, Manito, Mackinaw Circuit, and Normal in the Central Illinois Conference, and Warsaw and Bloomington in the Illinois Conference.

§ 35. INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north and east by a line beginning where the National Road intersects the west line of the State of Indiana; thence along said road to Terre Haute; thence along the Vandalia Railroad to Belmont Street, West Indianapolis, including Locust Street Charge in Green-

castle; thence north to Michigan Street, thence east to the Belt Railroad; thence north and east along said railroad to a point due west of Ninth Street; thence east to the Lafayette & Indianapolis Railroad; thence north on said railroad to the Michigan Road; thence on said road to the north line of Marion County; thence east on said county line to the northeast corner of said county; thence south on the east line of said county to the National Road; thence east on said road to State line; on the east by the State of Ohio, including Elizabeth, Hamilton County, Ohio; on the south by the Ohio River, and on the west by the State of Illinois.

§ 36. Iowa Conference shall be bounded on the east by the Mississippi River; on the south by the Missouri State line; on the west and north by a line commencing at the southwest corner of Appanoose County; thence north to Marshall County, leaving Knoxville in the Iowa Conference and Monroe in the Des Moines Conference; thence on the south line of Marshall County due east to the Iowa River; thence down said river to Iowa City; thence on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad to Davenport, leaving Davenport and Iowa City in the Upper Iowa Conference, and all intermediate towns in the Iowa Conference.

§ 37. Kansas Conference shall include that part of the State of Kansas lying east of a line traversing the west boundary of Chautauqua, Elk, and Greenwood Counties; thence along the south and west boundary of Chase County to the south and west border of Morris County to the south boundary of Dickinson County; thence west to the sixth principal meridian; thence north to the Nebraska State line; ex-

cepting the Solomon City Circuit lying east of said line.

§ 38. KENTUCKY CONFERENCE shall include the work among the white people in the State of Kentucky.

§ 39. LEXINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the States of Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, excepting so much of the State of Illinois as is included in the Central Missouri Conference.

§ 40. LINCOLN CONFERENCE shall include all the work among the colored people in the States of Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

§ 41. LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Arkansas.

§ 42. LOUISIANA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Louisiana.

§ 43. MAINE CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Maine west of the Kennebec River, from its mouth to the great bend below Skowhegan, and of a line running thence north to the State line; including Skowhegan and Augusta and that part of the town of Winslow north of Sebasticook River, and also that part of New Hampshire east of the White Hills and north of the waters of Ossipee Lake, and the towns of Gorham and Berlin.

§ 44. MICHIGAN CONFERENCE shall include the State of Michigan in the Lower Peninsula west of the principal meridian as far north as the southern boundary of Roscommon County; thence west to the southwest corner of said county; thence north to the southern boundary of Charlevoix County; thence east to the southeast corner of said county; thence north to the Straits of Mackinaw.

§ 45. Minnesota Conference shall include that part of the State of Minnesota lying south of the following line: Beginning at the eastern boundary of the State at the northeast corner of Washington County; thence running west to the northwest corner of said county; thence south to the northeast corner of Ramsey County; thence following the line of Ramsey County to where it strikes the east line of Hennepin County; thence following the east and south lines of Hennepin County to the point where the Hastings & Dakota Railroad crosses the line of said county; thence following the line of the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to Ortinville; all towns on the Hastings & Dakota Railroad to be in the Northern Minnesota Conference.

§ 46. Mississippi Conference shall include all the colored work in the State of Mississippi south of a line beginning at the northeast corner of Kemper County, and running along the northern border of said county, and of the counties of Neshoba, Leake, Madison, Yazoo, Sharkey, and Issaquena to the Mississippi River.

§ 47. Missouri Conference shall include so much of the State of Missouri as lies north of the Missouri River.

§ 48. Montana Conference shall include all that part of the State of Montana not included in the North Montana Conference, and that part of North Dakota which lies between the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 49. Nebraska Conference shall include all the State of Nebraska except that contained in the Northwest Nebraska Conference.

§ 50. Newark Conference shall include that part of

the State of New Jersey not included in the New Jersey Conference, with the Borough of Richmond, city of New York, in the State of New York, and such portions of Rockland, Orange, and Sullivan Counties, in the State of New York, as lie south and west of a line extending from Tompkins Cove, on the Hudson River, intersecting the New Jersey State line at a point south of Sloatsburg; thence along said State line to the Wallkill River; thence due north, intersecting the Erie Railroad at a point west of Middletown; thence in a northwesterly direction to a point where the Port Jervis & Monticello Railroad crosses the northern line of Forestburg Township, in Sullivan County; thence southwest to a point on the Delaware River below Lackawaxen, in Pennsylvania; also such portions of Pike and Monroe Counties, in the State of Pennsylvania, as lie north of the Philadelphia Conference and east of the Wyoming Conference, the same being now included in the Matamoras, Milford, Dingmans, and Coolbaugh Charges.

§ 51. NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE shall include all the State of Massachusetts east of the Green Mountains not included in the New Hampshire and the New England Southern Conferences.

§ 52. NEW ENGLAND SOUTHERN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Connecticut lying east of the Connecticut River, the State of Rhode Island, with the town of Blackstone, in Massachusetts, and that part of the State of Massachusetts south of the towns of Wrentham, Walpole, Dedham, Milton, and Quincy.

§ 53. NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE shall include the State of New Hampshire, except that part within the Maine Conference; also that part of the State of

Massachusetts northeast of the Merrimac River, except that part of Lowell north of the Merrimac.

§ 54. New Jersey Conference shall include that part of the State of New Jersey lying south of the following line, namely; commencing at Raritan Bay; thence up said Bay and River to New Brunswick; thence along a straight line southwest to Lambertville on the Delaware River, including the City of New Brunswick and Lambertville Station.

§ 55. New Mexico Conference shall include the State of New Mexico excepting Chama; also the county of El Paso in the State of Texas and the State of Chihuahua in the republic of Mexico; it shall also include the work among the Spanish speaking people in the States of New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado, El Paso, Texas, and the States of Chihuahua and Sonora in the republic of Mexico.

§ 56. New York Conference shall consist of the territory now in the New York, Poughkeepsie (including Gaylordsville), Newburgh, and Kingston Districts.

§ 57. New York East Conference shall include Long Island; those Charges in Manhattan and Bronx east of South Ferry, Whitehall Street, Broadway, Park Row, Chatham Square, Bowery, Third Avenue to Pelham Avenue; west to the Harlem Railroad track; north to Mount Vernon; thence including Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Mamaroneck, Harrison, and all between them and Long Island Sound to the State of Connecticut; thence following the State line, including Pound Ridge but excluding Gaylordsville, to Sharon Township; east to the Housatonic River; north to Canaan Township; east to Winchester, excluding North Goshen; north to State line; east to

the Connecticut River, and following the river to the Sound.

§ 58. NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of North Carolina and in that part of the State of Virginia lying south of a line beginning at Cape Henry and running to Hampton Roads; thence with Hampton Roads to the James River; thence with the southern bank of the James River to Chesterfield County; thence with the northern boundary of the following counties: Prince George, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Prince Edward, Charlotte, and Halifax, to the northeast corner of Pittsylvania; thence in a southwesterly direction to the northeast corner of Henry; thence with the county lines of Pittsylvania, Franklin, and Bedford to the corner of Bedford and Roanoke; thence with the Blue Ridge Mountains to the North Carolina line.

§ 59. NORTH DAKOTA CONFERENCE shall include the State of North Dakota except that part which lies between the Missouri and the Yellowstone Rivers.

§ 60. NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the north by the State of Michigan; on the east by the State of Ohio, including Union City; on the south by the National Road from the State line west to Marion County; thence north to the northeast corner of said county; thence west to the Michigan Road; on the west by said Michigan Road to South Bend; and thence by the Saint Joseph River to the Michigan State line, including Logansport and all the towns on the National Road east of Indianapolis.

§ 61. NORTH MONTANA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of Montana, south to Mondak; thence west along the Missouri River to the mouth of Squaw Creek; thence

along said creek to the watershed of the Musselshell and Yellowstone Rivers to the North Fork of the Musselshell to Copperopolis; thence north to the north line of township ten, north, leaving White Sulphur Springs in the Montana Conference; thence west through the Montana Wesleyan University building in the Prickly Pear Valley to the Great Northern Railway; thence along said railway to the station of Mitchell, leaving said station in the North Montana Conference; thence northwest to the Continental Divide; thence along said Divide to the southeast corner of Flathead County; thence along the former boundary of Flathead County to the Idaho line; thence north to the Canadian line; thence east to the boundary between Montana and North Dakota.

§ 62. North-East Ohio Conference shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the north point of the line separating Ohio from Pennsylvania; thence south along said line to the Ohio River, including Orangeville Church; thence down said river to the Muskingum River; thence up the Muskingum River to Dresden, excluding Marietta, Zanesville and Dresden; thence westerly to the main road passing through Delaware and Marion, including Utica, Homer and Galena Circuits and excluding Stratford; on the west by the main road passing through Delaware and Marion to Upper Sandusky, and by the Sandusky River to its mouth; thence due north to the State line, including the towns of Tiffin, Port Clinton and Lakeside, and excluding so much of the town of Delaware as lies west of Sandusky Street, yet including Asbury Church in the city of Delaware; also excluding the towns of Marion, Fremont and Upper Sandus-

ky; thence east on the northern line of the State of Ohio to the place of beginning.

§ 63. NORTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Minnesota and North Dakota, and also appointments in the State of Wisconsin along the Mississippi River north of the city of La Crosse which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

§ 64. NORTHERN MINNESOTA CONFERENCE shall include all of the State of Minnesota not included in the Minnesota Conference.

§ 65. NORTHERN NEW YORK CONFERENCE shall include so much of the county of Franklin as is not within the Troy Conference, and the counties of Saint Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and Herkimer, and all of Oswego County except Phoenix, and so much of the county of Madison as lies on and east of the New York, Ontario & Western Railroad, together with Cherry Valley, Springfield and Richfield Springs in Otsego County, Saint Johnsville in Montgomery County, and Lassellsville, Oppenheim, and Stratford in Fulton County.

§ 66. NORTHERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in Minnesota, Northern Michigan, Wisconsin (except Racine), North Dakota, and that part of Montana lying east of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 67. NORTHWEST GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the State of South Dakota; and in that part of the State of Iowa north of an east and west line passing along the south line of the city of Clinton; and in that part of the State of Illinois lying west of the Chicago German Conference; and all appointments in the State of Wisconsin south of and

including the cities of La Crosse and Tomah which are not included in the Chicago German Conference.

§ 68. Northwest Indiana Conference shall be bounded on the north by Lake Michigan and the State line; on the east by the Saint Joseph River and the Michigan Road; on the south by the Indiana Conference, and on the west by Illinois, including all the towns on the Michigan Road except Logansport; and all the towns on the southern boundary, excluding Locust Street Charge, in Greencastle.

§ 69. Northwest Iowa Conference shall include that part of the State of Iowa west of the Upper Iowa and north of the Des Moines Conferences.

§ 70. Northwest Kansas Conference shall be bounded on the west and north by the Kansas State line; on the east by the sixth principal meridian, but including the Solomon City Circuit; and on the south by the south line of township seventeen as far west as to the east line of Lane County; thence north to the north line of said Lane County; thence west to the State line.

§ 71. Northwest Nebraska Conference shall include all that portion of the State of Nebraska lying west of the west line of range twelve west of the sixth principal meridian, and north of the sixth standard parallel north, including such portions of Sheridan, Boxbutte, and Sioux Counties as are south of such line.

§ 72. Norwegian and Danish Conference shall include all the Norwegian and Danish work between the Allegheny and Rocky Mountains, except in the City of Buffalo.

§ 73. Ohio Conference shall be bounded as follows: Commencing on the Muskingum River north of Dres-

den; thence down said river to the Ohio River, including Zanesville and Marietta; thence down the Ohio River to the mouth of Ohio Brush Creek; thence north to the southeast corner of Fayette County; thence northwest to the west line of Fayette County, not including Center Church; thence north on the west line of Fayette and Madison Counties to the Springfield Branch of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad, leaving Vienna, Dunbarton, and Sinking Spring Circuits west of said line; thence east on the southern boundaries of the former Central Ohio and North-East Ohio Conferences to the place of beginning, including Milford and Stratford, and Saint Paul's Charge, Delaware, Ohio.

§ 74. OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE shall include the State of Oklahoma, except the three counties of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron, and the portion included in the Arkansas Conference; also the entire State of Texas, except El Paso County and that portion included in the Gulf Conference.

§ 75. OREGON CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Oregon not included in the Columbia River and the Idaho Conferences.

§ 76. PACIFIC GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work of the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana.

§ 77. PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded on the east by the Delaware River, on the south by the Pennsylvania State line, on the west by the Susquehanna River, excluding Harrisburg, Curtin Heights, Epworth and Riverside Charges; on the north by the north line of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Carbon, and Monroe Counties, excepting Ashland, and the Beaver Meadows Circuit.

§ 78. Pittsburgh Conference shall be bounded on the north by the Erie Conference; on the east by the Central Pennsylvania Conference; on the south by the West Virginia Conference; on the west by the North-East Ohio Conference.

§ 79. Puget Sound Conference shall include all that part of the State of Washington lying west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains.

§ 80. Rock River Conference shall include that part of the State of Illinois north of Central Illinois Conference, except East Dubuque. This Conference shall include the work among the Welsh people of the States of Illinois and Wisconsin.

§ 81. Saint Johns River Conference shall include the work among the white people in the State of Florida, excepting that portion lying west of the Apalachicola River.

§ 82. Saint Louis Conference shall include that part of the State of Missouri lying south of the Missouri River.

§ 83. Saint Louis German Conference shall include the German work in that part of the State of Illinois south of the Chicago German Conference, and in the State of Iowa south of the Northwest German Conference; and all of the German work in the State of Missouri which is not within the West German Conference.

§ 84. Savannah Conference shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Georgia lying south of a line running east and west on a line of the northern boundaries of Richmond, McDuffie, Warren, Hancock, Putnam, Jasper, and Butts counties; that part of Spalding County embracing Liberty Hill Circuit; all of Pike County except the Church known as Free

Liberty; that part of Meriwether County embracing Greenville; and that part of Troup County embracing La Grange Station and La Grange Circuit.

§ 85. SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of South Carolina.

§ 86. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE shall embrace that portion of the State of California lying south of the line beginning at the summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains; following the middle fork of the Merced River until it reaches the northern boundary of Merced County; thence north and west along said boundary, including Newman Circuit, to the northwest corner of Merced County; thence south to the northwest corner of Fresno County; thence in a direct line to the mouth of the Carmel River, on Carmel Bay; also that portion of the State east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and south of Inyo County, except Needles. It shall also include the territory of Lower California in the republic of Mexico.

§ 87. SOUTHERN GERMAN CONFERENCE shall include the German work in the States of Texas and Louisiana.

§ 88. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE shall include all that part of the State of Illinois south of the following line, namely: Beginning at a point on the Mississippi River at the northwest corner of Calhoun County; thence east along the north line of said county to the Illinois River; thence down the Illinois River to Columbiana; thence east to the northeast corner of Jersey County, leaving Carrollton and Rockbridge in the Illinois Conference; thence in a southeasterly direction, leaving Chesterfield in the Illinois Conference and Litchfield in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence to Hillsboro, leaving Hillsboro in

the Illinois Conference; thence to the northwest corner of Fayette County; thence along the north line of Fayette County and Effingham County to the west line of Cumberland County, leaving Herrick and Holliday in the Southern Illinois Conference; thence south to the southwest corner of Cumberland County; thence east along the south line of Cumberland and Clark counties to the Wabash River.

§ 89. Southwest Kansas Conference shall include all that part of the State of Kansas not included in the Kansas and the Northwest Kansas Conferences; also Beaver, Cimarron and Texas counties in the State of Oklahoma.

§ 90. Tennessee Conference shall include the colored work in that portion of the State of Tennessee west of and including the counties of Franklin, Coffee, Warren, White, Putnam, Overton, and Pickett, in said State.

§ 91. Texas Conference shall include the colored work in so much of the State of Texas as lies east of a line beginning at the Gulf of Mexico on the east line of Matagorda County, and running along said line and the east line of Wharton and Colorado counties to the north point of Colorado County; thence north until it strikes the Central Railroad at Calvert; thence along the line of the railroad to the northern boundary of Texas, excluding Calvert and all the towns on the line of said road.

§ 92. Troy Conference shall include that portion of the State of New York embraced in the counties of Rensselaer, Washington, Clinton, Essex, Warren, Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery (except Saint Johnsville), Fulton (except the towns of Oppenheim and Stratford), Albany (except Coeymans, Coeymans Hol-

low, and South Bethlehem), Schoharie (except Blenheim, Charlottesville, Eminence, Gilboa, Livingstonville, and Summit); in Columbia County, the towns of Stuyvesant, Kinderhook, New Lebanon and Chatham (except Chatham Village and East Chatham); in Franklin County, the towns of Standish, Saranac Lake, and the appointments connected with Bloomingdale Circuit; in Hamilton County, the towns of Benson, Hope, Wells, Indian Lake, Long Lake, and Blue Mountain Lake; and in Otsego County, Center Valley; also that portion of the State of Vermont embraced in the counties of Addison (except the towns of Granville and Hancock); Bennington (except the towns of Landgrove and Peru), Rutland (except Mechanicville and Cuttingsville, Mount Holly, East Wallingford, Summit, and Healdsville); and in Chittenden County, the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburg, Huntington, Williston, Shelburne, Burlington, and Winooski; also in the State of Massachusetts all that part of Berkshire County lying upon the line of the Boston & Albany Railroad, and north of said line.

§ 93. UPPER IOWA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows, namely: Beginning at the northeast corner of the State of Iowa; thence down the Mississippi River to Davenport, including East Dubuque, in the State of Illinois; thence west on the north line of the Iowa Conference to the southeast corner of Story County; thence north to the State line, so as to include Iowa Falls; thence east on said line to the place of beginning.

§ 94. UPPER MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE shall include the colored work in the State of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference.

§ 95. VERMONT CONFERENCE shall include the State

of Vermont, except that section lying south of the Winooski River and west of the Green Mountain divide; said boundary to leave Winooski Charge in the Troy Conference, and Mechanicville and Cuttingsville in the Vermont Conference.

§ 96. Washington Conference shall include the colored work in Western Maryland, the District of Columbia, the State of West Virginia, except the counties of Mercer, Wyoming, and McDowell; so much of the State of Pennsylvania as lies west of the Susquehanna River, including the towns on said river; and so much of the State of Virginia as is not included in the East Tennessee, Delaware, and North Carolina Conferences.

§ 97. West German Conference shall include the German work in the States of Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Oklahoma, and so much of the State of Missouri as lies west of a line commencing at the southeast corner of the State of Kansas; thence direct to the southeast corner of Morgan County, Missouri; thence north to the northeast corner of Charlton County, Missouri; thence to the northeast corner of Worth County, Missouri.

§ 98. West Ohio Conference shall be bounded on the north by the north line of the State of Ohio; on the east by the North-East Ohio Conference to the junction with the Ohio Conference at Delaware, excluding Asbury Church; thence west by the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad to the west line of the Ohio Conference; thence south by the west line of the Ohio Conference; on the south by the Ohio River; and on the west by the west line of the State of Ohio.

§ 99. West Texas Conference shall embrace the

colored work in that part of the State of Texas which is not included in the Texas Conference.

§ 100. WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Pennsylvania; thence along the west line of Pennsylvania to the northeast corner of Ohio County, West Virginia, so as to include Dallas Circuit and Triadelphia Circuit; thence by the most direct way to Short Creek so as to include Short Creek and Liberty Circuit; thence down Short Creek to the Ohio River; thence down said river to the mouth of the Big Sandy River; on the west by the State line; on the south by the Kentucky and Holston Conferences, including the counties of Highland, Augusta, Rockbridge, Botetourt, Alleghany, and Craig in the State of Virginia; on the east so as to include Bayard, Blaine, Gormania, Swanton, and Grantsville Charges, to the Pennsylvania State line; thence westward along said line to the place of beginning.

§ 101. WEST WISCONSIN CONFERENCE shall include that part of the State of Wisconsin not embraced in the Wisconsin Conference.

§ 102. WESTERN NORWEGIAN-DANISH CONFERENCE shall include the Norwegian and Danish work in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and California.

§ 103. WESTERN SWEDISH CONFERENCE shall include all of the Swedish work in the States of Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota.

§ 104. WILMINGTON CONFERENCE shall include the State of Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and all that part of the State of Virginia east of the Baltimore Conference.

§ 105. Wisconsin Conference shall include all that part of the State of Wisconsin lying east and north of a line beginning at the southeast corner of Green County, on the south line of the State; thence north on the range line between ranges nine and ten east, to the north line of town twenty; thence west on the said line to the east line of range three; thence north on said line, to the Michigan State line, excluding Avon Church, McFarland, Goodman Church, Brooklyn, and the town of Pine Grove in Portage County.

§ 106. Wyoming Conference shall include that portion of the southern part of the State of New York which is not included in the New York, New York East, Newark, Central New York, and Genesee Conferences; and that part of the State of Pennsylvania which is bounded on the west by Central New York Conference, including the territory east of the Susquehanna River, and on the south by the Central Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Newark Conferences, including Narrowsburg, and on the east by the Newark and New York Conferences.

§ 107. Wyoming State Conference shall include the State of Wyoming.

II. Foreign Countries

¶ 499, § 1. Bengal Conference shall include Bengal, Assam, Chota, Nagpur, Orisca, and so much of Bihar as lies east and south of the Bhagalpur Civil District.

§ 2. Bombay Conference shall include all of the Bombay Presidency north of the Belgaum District, and such parts of Central India as lie south of the

twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude and west of the Central Provinces Mission Conference.

§ 3. CENTRAL CHINA CONFERENCE shall include Central China, with its central station at the city of Nanking, on the Yang-tse River, excluding the Kiangsi Mission Conference.

§ 4. CENTRAL PROVINCES CONFERENCE shall include all the Central Provinces, and the Feudatory States under the supervision of the Central Provinces Government, Berar, and such portion of Central India not embraced in the Bombay Conference as lies north of the Central Provinces and south of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude; that portion of the Nizam's Dominions lying north of the Godavery Valley Railway, from Jalna in the Aurungabad District, to the point where that railway crosses the Godavery River; such country as lies north of the Godavery River from this point eastward to a point twenty-five miles west of Sironcha. The boundary line shall be thence southeastward along the Godavery River.

§ 5. CHILE CONFERENCE shall include the Republic of Chile.

§ 6. DENMARK CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Denmark.

§ 7. EASTERN SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE shall include the Republics of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil.

§ 8. FINLAND CONFERENCE shall include Finland.

§ 9. FOOCHOW CONFERENCE shall include the Fokien Province in China, excepting so much as is included within the Hinghwa Conference.

§ 10. HINGHWA CONFERENCE shall include the Hinghwa Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Hinghwa dialect is spoken; and the Ing-

chung Prefecture and the adjoining territory in which the Amoy dialect is spoken.

§ 11. Italy Conference shall include the Kingdom of Italy, and those parts of contiguous countries in which the Italian language is spoken.

§ 12. Korea Conference shall include Korea.

§ 13. Liberia Conference shall include the western coast of Africa North of the Equator.

§ 14. Malaysia Conference shall include the Straits Settlements, the Malay Peninsula, French Indo-China, Borneo, Celebes, Java, Sumatra, and the adjacent islands (not including the Philippines) inhabited by the Malay race.

§ 15. Mexico Conference shall include the Republic of Mexico, except the States of Chihuahua and Sonora and the Territory of Lower California; it shall also include Central America.

§ 16. North China Conference shall include that portion of the Chinese Republic including the north of the Provinces of Shantung and Honan.

§ 17. North Germany Conference shall include all that part of Germany north of a line running from the northwest to the southeast, between the Provinces of the Rhine and Westphalia, and from the southern point of Westphalia to the northern point of Bavaria; thence by the north and northeast boundary of Bavaria, between Bavaria on the one side and the Turingen States and the Kingdom of Saxony on the other, so as to include the present districts of Berlin, Bremen, and Leipzig and the Circuit of Cassel.

§ 18. North India Conference shall include the United Provinces of Agra and Oude east of the Ganges River and so much of Bihar as is not included in the Bengal Conference.

§ 19. NORTHWEST INDIA CONFERENCE shall include that portion of the United Provinces of Agra and Oude which lies south and west of the Ganges; the Punjab, and such parts of Rajputana and Central India as lie north of the twenty-fifth parallel of north latitude.

§ 20. NORWAY CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Norway.

§ 21. PHILIPPINE ISLANDS CONFERENCE shall include the Philippine Archipelago and the Sulu Islands.

§ 22. SOUTH GERMANY CONFERENCE shall include all of the Empire of Germany not included in the North Germany Conference.

§ 23. SOUTH INDIA CONFERENCE shall include all that part of India lying south of the Bombay and Bengal Conferences and the Central Provinces Conference.

§ 24. SWEDEN CONFERENCE shall include the Kingdom of Sweden.

§ 25. SWITZERLAND CONFERENCE shall include the Republic of Switzerland.

§ 26. WEST CHINA CONFERENCE shall include the work in the western part of the Chinese Republic and in Tibet.

CHAPTER III

BOUNDARIES OF MISSION CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS

I. United States and Territories

¶ 500, § 1. ALASKA MISSION shall include the Territory of Alaska.

§ 2. ARIZONA MISSION shall include the State of

Arizona, Needles in the State of California, and the State of Sonora in the Republic of Mexico.

§ 3. HAWAII MISSION shall include the Hawaiian Islands.

§ 4. ITALIAN MISSION[1] shall include all the Italian work in the territory included between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mississippi River, except that included in the Gulf Conference.

§ 5. NEVADA MISSION shall include the State of Nevada, and as much of the State of California as lies east of the west summit of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

§ 6. PACIFIC CHINESE MISSION shall include all the Chinese work between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.

§ 7. PACIFIC JAPANESE MISSION shall include all the Japanese work west of the Mississippi River.

§ 8. PACIFIC SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include the Swedish work in the States of California, Oregon, Washington, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Arizona, and that part of Montana west of the Rocky Mountains.

§ 9. PORTO RICO MISSION CONFERENCE shall include Porto Rico and the adjacent islands belonging to its civil jurisdiction, together with any work which may be established by our Church or come under its care in any of the islands known as the West Indies.

§ 10. SOUTH FLORIDA MISSION shall include the colored work in that part of the State of Florida lying south of parallel twenty-nine, including New Smyrna, Daytona, Ormond, and De Land.

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[1] NOTE.—*The continuance of the Italian Mission as such was referred, by the General Conference, to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, with power.*

§ 11. SOUTHERN SWEDISH MISSION CONFERENCE shall include all the Swedish work in Texas.

§ 12. UTAH MISSION shall include the State of Utah.

II. Foreign Countries

¶ 501. SOUTH AMERICA. § 1. *North Andes Mission Conference* shall include all of South America not included in the Eastern South America Conference and the Chile Conference, except the Bolivia Mission Conference and Panama Mission.

§ 2. *Bolivia Mission Conference* shall include the Republic of Bolivia.

§ 3. *Panama Mission* shall include the Republic of Panama.

¶ 502. EUROPE. § 1. *Austria-Hungary Mission Conference* shall include the Empire of Austria-Hungary.

§ 2. *Bulgaria Mission Conference* shall include the Kingdom of Bulgaria north of the Balkan Mountains, and other contiguous countries of the Balkan Peninsula lying north and west of said section.

§ 3. *France Mission Conference* shall include the Republic of France.

§ 4. *Russia Mission* shall include the Empire of Russia.

¶ 503. ASIA. § 1. *Burma Mission Conference* shall include Burma.

§ 2. *Kiangsi Mission Conference* shall include the Province of Kiangsi and that portion of the Anhwei Province west of a line drawn north and south through the eastern wall of the City of Ngonking, the Capital of the Province.

¶ 504. Africa. § 1. *North Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in North Africa.

§ 2. *Inhambane Mission Conference* shall include the work south of the Sabi River on the east coast of Africa.

§ 3. *Rhodesia Mission Conference* shall include the work in Northern and Southern Rhodesia and that portion of Portuguese East Africa north of the Sabi River.

§ 4. *West Central Africa Mission Conference* shall include the work in West Africa south of the equator, and the Madeira Islands.

§ 5. *Congo Mission* shall include the work in the Belgian Congo.

CHAPTER IV

CENTRAL MISSION CONFERENCES

¶ 505. § 1. European Central Conference.

1. Austria-Hungary Mission Conference.
2. Bulgaria Mission Conference.
3. Denmark Annual Conference.
4. Finland Annual Conference.
5. France Mission Conference.
6. Italy Annual Conference.
7. North Germany Annual Conference.
8. Norway Annual Conference.
9. Russia Mission.
10. South Germany Annual Conference.
11. Sweden Annual Conference.
12. Switzerland Annual Conference.
13. North Africa Mission Conference.

§ 2. EASTERN ASIA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

1. Central China Annual Conference.
2. East Japan Mission Council.
3. Foochow Annual Conference.
4. Hinghwa Annual Conference.
5. Kiangsi Mission Conference.
6. Korea Annual Conference.
7. North China Annual Conference.
8. West China Annual Conference.
9. West Japan Mission Council.

§ 3. SOUTHERN ASIA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

1. Bengal Annual Conference.
2. Bombay Annual Conference.
3. Burma Mission Conference.
4. Central Provinces Annual Conference.
5. Malaysia Annual Conference.
6. North India Annual Conference.
7. Northwest India Annual Conference.
8. Philippine Islands Annual Conference.
9. South India Annual Conference.

CHAPTER V

ENABLING ACTS

¶ 506. The following Enabling Acts are in force; provided, that the number of Members in any adjoining Annual Conference, Mission Conference, or Mission, shall not be diminished to less than twenty-five.

I. In the United States

TO UNITE CONFERENCES OR MISSIONS

¶ 507, § 1. *Missouri* and *Saint Louis Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference, with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference to be called the Missouri Conference, covering the entire State of Missouri.

§ 2. *Montana* and *North Montana Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, upon a two-thirds vote of the Members of each Conference and the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference under such name as may be adopted. Second, they may segregate the counties of Sanders, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, Powell, Granite, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, and Beaverhead from the Montana Conference, and the counties of Lincoln and Flathead from the North Montana Conference to form the West Montana Conference. Third, The North Montana Conference may exchange the counties of Flathead and Lincoln for the counties of Dawson, Richland, Prairie, and Wibaux in the Montana Conference.

§ 3. *Nebraska* and *Northwest Nebraska Annual Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote in each Conference of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite to form one Annual Conference to be known as the Nebraska Conference.

§ 4. *Northern German* and the *Northwest German Conferences*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of each Conference and with the con-

currence of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may unite and form one Conference, under such name as they may adopt.

TO DIVIDE CONFERENCES AND REARRANGE BOUNDARIES

¶ 508, § 1. The Annual Conferences of the State of Ohio are authorized and requested to appoint Commissions which may so adjust boundaries as to constitute three Annual Conferences in the State of Ohio; such action to be approved by each of the Conferences and by the Bishop or Bishops presiding at said Conferences.

§ 2. *Nevada Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting and with the consent of the Bishop presiding, may transfer all of its territory to the California Conference and the Southern California Conference, provided the said Conferences shall, by a majority vote of their members present and voting and with the consent of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, consent to such transfer of territory. In case the transfer is voted as above the division of the territory shall be made by a Commission composed of the Superintendent of the Nevada Mission and two members from each of the said Annual Conferences.

TO ORGANIZE CONFERENCES OR MISSIONS

¶ 509. *Pacific Swedish Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference, under such name as may be adopted.

II. In Foreign Countries

¶ 510. § 1. *Bombay Annual Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be divided into two Annual Conferences with such boundaries and names as may be adopted.

§ 2. *Burma Mission Conference* may, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, be organized into an Annual Conference with such name and boundaries as may be adopted.

§ 3. *Congo Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into a Mission Conference, with such name and boundaries as may be adopted.

§ 4. *Foochow Annual Conference* and the *Hinghwa Annual Conference*, during the next quadrennium, may set off that portion of the Foochow Annual Conference lying in the Yenping Prefecture and that portion of Hinghwa Annual Conference lying in the Duacheng Hsien of the Yunchun Prefecture, by a two-thirds vote of the Foochow and the Hinghwa Conferences, and with the consent of the Bishop or Bishops presiding, may be organized into a Mission Conference or Annual Conference, with such name as it may adopt.

§ 5. *Kiangsi Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a majority vote and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 6. *Malaysia Annual Conference*, during the coming quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may divide into two Annual Conferences or into an Annual Conference and a Mission Conference, with such boundaries and names as may be adopted.

§ 7. *North Africa Mission Conference*, during the next quadrennium, by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may be organized into an Annual Conference.

§ 8. *Russia Mission*, during the next quadrennium, by a two-thirds vote and with the concurrence of the Bishop presiding, may organize into a Mission Conference, with such name as may be adopted.

§ 9. *Southern Asia Central Conference.* The Executive Board of the Southern Asia Central Conference, with the majority vote of the Conferences and the consent of the Bishops concerned, during the next quadrennium, may organize the English-speaking work of India into a Mission or Missions, with such boundaries and name or names as may be adopted.

PART IX
RITUAL

The Ritual of The Methodist Episcopal Church
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I. BAPTISM
II. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS
III. THE LORD'S SUPPER
IV. MATRIMONY
V. BURIAL OF THE DEAD
VI. CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION
VII. CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

CHAPTER I

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

[Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice of either sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.]
[We will on no account whatever make a charge for administering Baptism.]

¶ 511. Order for the Administration of Baptism to Infants

The Minister, coming to the Font, which is to be filled with pure Water, shall use the following:

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as God in his great mercy hath entered into covenant relation with man, wherein he hath included children as partakers of its gracious benefits; and our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of his bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of his Son, he will grant that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, be

NOTE.—We call upon all our ministers to make faithful use of the forms and orders here provided, and without other deviation than that here indicated as permitted.
We urge all pastors to encourage and train their congregations to participate audibly in those portions of the service provided for this purpose, particularly in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The portions to be used by the congregation are specially indicated by black face type.
The Scripture quotations, excepting the Psalms, the Lord's Prayer and forms of benediction, are from the American Standard Edition of the Revised Bible. Copyrighted, 1901, by Thomas Nelson & Sons.

received into Christ's holy Church, and become *a lively Member* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; we beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy thou wilt look upon *this child:* that *he*, being saved by thy grace, and received into Christ's holy Church, may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and may so overcome all evil that finally *he* may reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister address the Parents or other Sponsors as followeth:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as *this child is* now presented by you for Christian Baptism, and is thus consecrated to God and to his Church, it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this Holy Sacrament; that *he* shall read the Holy Scriptures and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed and the Catechism; and that *he* be instructed in the principles of our Holy Faith and the nature of the Christian life. And ye shall call upon *him* to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace, such as the ministry of the Word, and the public and private worship of God; and that in every way, by precept and example,

ye shall seek to lead *him* into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties, so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Answer. **We do.**

Then shall the People stand up, and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. Mark. [Chap. 10. 13-16.]

And they were bringing unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Then the Minister may take the Child in his arms, and say to the Parents or other Sponsors:

What name shall be given to this child?

And then, naming it after them, he shall baptize it, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister offer the following Prayer, the People kneeling:

O God of infinite mercy, be pleased to grant unto

this child an understanding mind and a sanctified heart. May thy providence lead *him* through the dangers, temptations, and ignorance of *his* youth, that *he* may never run into folly, nor into the evils of an unbridled appetite. We pray thee so to order the course of *his* life that, by good education, by holy examples, and by thy restraining and renewing grace, *he* may be led to serve thee faithfully all *his* days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, grant unto these, thy servants, the parents [sponsors] of *this child*, thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may command *their* household to keep the way of the Lord; that *their* whole family may be united to our Lord Jesus Christ in the bands of faith, obedience, and charity; and that they all, being in this life thy holy children, may be admitted into the Church of the first born in heaven, through the merits of thy Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

Then shall be said by the Minister and People, all kneeling:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

¶ 512. Order for the Administration of Baptism to such as are of Riper Years

The Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as all men have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and our Saviour Christ saith except a man be born anew he cannot see the kingdom of God, and also gave commandment saying: Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and, being received into Christ's holy Church, may continue lively *Members* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everliving God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead: we call upon thee for *these persons*, that *they*, coming to thy Holy Baptism, may also be filled with the Holy Spirit. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. So give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock; that *these persons* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised, by Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister read the following Lesson:

And Peter *said* unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. And with many other words he testified, and exhorted them, saying, Save yourselves from this crooked generation. They then that received his word were baptized: and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers. [Acts 2. 38-42.]

Or this

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: the same came unto him by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born anew. The wind bloweth where it will, and thou hearest the voice thereof, but know-

est not whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. [John 3. 1-8.]

Then shall the Minister speak to the Persons to be baptized on this wise:

Well Beloved, who have come hither desiring to receive Holy Baptism, you have heard how the Congregation hath prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you, to bless you, and to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. And our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his holy word to grant all those things that we have prayed for: which promise he for his part will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, you must also faithfully, for your part, promise in the presence of this whole Congregation, that you will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's Holy Word, and obediently keep his commandments.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the Persons to be baptized:

Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Answer. **I renounce them all.**

Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son our

Lord; and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; that he rose the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic[1] Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and everlasting life after death?

Answer. **All this I steadfastly believe.**

Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Answer. **Such is my desire.**

Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Answer. **I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.**

Then shall the Minister say:

O Merciful God, grant that all sinful affections may die in *these persons*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. *Amen.*

Grant that *they*, being here dedicated to thee in holy baptism, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, Everliving God, regard, we beseech thee, our supplications; and grant that the *persons* now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace,

[1] The one universal Church of Christ.

and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and beloved children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, asking the name of each Person, shall baptize him, saying:

N., . . . I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall be said by the Minister and people, all kneeling:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Then may the Minister conclude with extemporary Prayer.

CHAPTER II

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

¶ 513. Form for Receiving Persons into the Church as Preparatory Members

[The use of this form is discretionary with the minister.]

Those who are to be received into the Church as Preparatory Members may be called forward by name, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN, that none may be ad-

mitted hastily into the Church, we receive persons who seek fellowship with us on profession of faith into a preparatory membership; in which proof may be made, both to themselves and to the Church, of the sincerity and depth of their convictions and of the strength of their purpose to lead a new life.

The persons here present desire to be so admitted. You will hear their answers to the questions put to them, and if you make no objection they will be received.

It is needful, however, that you be reminded of your own responsibility, as having previously entered this holy fellowship and now representing the Church into which they seek admission. Inasmuch as they should find in you holy examples of life and loving help in the true serving of their Lord and ours, I beseech you so to order your own lives that these new disciples may take no detriment from you, but that it may ever be to them a cause for thanksgiving to God that they were led into this fellowship.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission as Preparatory Members, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you have, by the grace of God, made your decision to follow Christ and to serve him. Your confidence in so doing is not to be based on any notion of fitness or worthiness in yourselves, but on the gracious promise of God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

That the Church may know your purpose, you will answer the following questions:

Have you an earnest desire to be saved from your sins?

Answer. **I have.**

Will you guard against all things contrary to the teaching of God's Word, and endeavor to lead a holy life, following the commandments of God?

Answer. **I will endeavor so to do.**

Will you give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace in the ministry of the Word, and in the private and public worship of God?

Answer. **With the help of God, I will.**

The Minister shall then welcome the Candidates as Preparatory Members, and may assign them to classes.

Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

¶ 514. Form for Receiving Persons into the Church from Preparatory Membership

On the day appointed, all that are to be received into the Church shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, the Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the head; and that it is the design of the gospel to bring together in one all who are in Christ. The end of this fellowship is the salvation of men and the establishment of the kingdom of God upon earth. As helps thereto the Church is charged with the maintenance of sound doctrine and of the ordinances of Christian worship, and with the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to her for the promotion of holiness. The duties of those united in this fellow-

ship are to continue steadfast in the faith and practice of the gospel; to promote the peace and unity of the Church; to labor for the spread of love and righteousness; and by word and deed to bring others into the fold of Jesus Christ.

Into this holy fellowship the *persons* before you, who have already received the sacrament of Baptism and have been under instruction in the doctrines of Holy Scripture as taught by the Methodist Episcopal Church, *come* seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question *them* as to *their* faith and purposes, that you may know that *they are* proper *persons* to be admitted into the Church.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you are come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that he has called you to be his *followers*, and that thus far you have run well. You have heard how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renew the solemn promise contained in the Baptismal Covenant, ratifying and confirming the same, and acknowledging *yourselves* bound faithfully to observe and keep that Covenant?

Answer. **I do.**

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

Answer. **I do.**

Do you believe in the Doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

Answer. **I do.**

Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Answer. **I will.**

Will you cheerfully be governed by the Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, hold sacred the Ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Answer. **I will.**

Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:

Defend, O Lord, *these* thy *servants* with thy heavenly grace; that *they* may continue thine forever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

¶ 515. Form for Receiving Children as Members of the Church

We regard all children who have been baptized as standing in covenant relation to God, and as preparatory members under the special care and supervision of the Church. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into full membership in the Church. See Discipline, paragraphs 49 to 54.

At the appointed time, the Minister shall read the names of the children to be received; and, after they have come forward, he shall say to the Congregation:

DEARLY BELOVED, these persons here present before you are baptized children of the Church, who, having arrived at the years of discretion, desire now to confirm the vows of their baptism and to enter upon the active duties and the full privileges of membership in the Church of Christ. They have been duly instructed as to the truths of the Christian faith, and have been examined as to their fitness for such membership. Before they assume the required vows, let us invoke on their behalf the gracious blessing of God our Father, and the continued presence of the Holy Spirit who hath inclined their hearts to this end.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, who hast appointed unto children a place in thy kingdom, and through thy well beloved Son didst give unto them thy blessing, we beseech thee that thou wilt visit with thy favor the homes of this congregation, and fill the hearts of all parents with the fear of God and the spirit of wisdom and love. We pray that thy church

may be faithful in the nurture of those committed to her care. Let thy blessing rest upon these, thy children, whom thou hast graciously inclined to thy service and to the fellowship of thy people. We beseech thee, that thou wilt so further them by thy grace and direct them by thy Spirit, that they may be faithful servants in thy kingdom on earth, and finally reign with thee in thy kingdom above, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister say:

Hear the words of the Gospel as written by St. Luke (Chap. 2. 40-52).

And the child grew, and waxed strong, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. And his parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up after the custom of the feast; and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and his parents knew it not; but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey; and they sought for him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance: and when they found him not, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking for him. And it came to pass, after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions: and all that heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought

me? know ye not that I must be in my Father's house? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth; and he was subject unto them: and his mother kept all *these* sayings in her heart.

Then shall the Minister address the Persons seeking Admission as follows:

Dearly Beloved, we rejoice in the grace of God in that he has brought you to this place, and by his Spirit has confirmed you in your purpose to serve Him and to live in the fellowship of the Church of Christ. It is needful now that you should declare your faith and purpose in the presence of this congregation by answering the following questions:

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

Answer. **I do.**

Do you receive and profess the Christian Faith as contained in the New Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer. **I do.**

Will you be loyal to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and uphold it by your prayer, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

Answer. **I will.**

Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:

Defend, O Lord, *these* thy *Children* with thy heavenly grace, that *they* may continue thine forever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

CHAPTER III

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, OR THE HOLY COMMUNION

[Let the pure, unfermented juice of the grape be used in administering the Lord's Supper.]

[Let persons who have scruples concerning the receiving of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper kneeling be permitted to receive it either standing or sitting.]

¶ 516. Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper

[If the Minister so desire, he may here use the Ten Commandments, with responses by the people, as contained in the Hymnal, Number 738.]

The Minister shall say one or more of these Sentences, during the reading of which the Persons appointed for that purpose shall receive the Offering for the Poor:

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust

doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also. [Matt. 6. 19-21.]

All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matt. 7. 12.]

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. [Matt. 7. 21.]

Zacchæus stood, and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have wrongfully exacted aught of any man, I restore fourfold. [Luke 19. 8.]

He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. *Let* each man *do* according as he hath purposed in his heart: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. [2 Cor. 9. 6, 7.]

So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith. [Gal. 6. 10.]

Godliness with contentment is great gain: for we brought nothing into the world, for neither can we carry anything out. [1 Tim. 6. 6, 7.]

Charge them that are rich in this present world, that they be not highminded, nor have their hope set on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, that they be ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on the life which is *life* indeed. [1 Tim. 6. 17-19.]

For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and the love which ye showed toward his name, in that ye ministered unto the saints, and still do minister. [Heb. 6. 10.]

To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. [Heb. 13. 16.]

Whoso hath the world's goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him? [1 John 3. 17.]

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto Jehovah, And his good deed will he pay him again. [Prov. 19. 17.]

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. [Psa. 41. 1.]

Thou shalt surely open thy hand unto thy brother, to thy needy, and to thy poor, in thy land. [Deut. 15. 11.]

After which the Minister shall give the following Invitation, the People standing:

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

Wherefore ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and, devoutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Then shall this general Confession be made by the Minister and all those who are minded to receive the Holy Communion, he and all the People devoutly kneeling and saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee, have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

This Collect shall then be said by the Minister and those intending to receive the Holy Communion:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are

hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may live and grow thereby; and that, being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall offer the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until his coming again; hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to

thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread (1); and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

[1] *Here the Minister may take the plate of Bread in his hand.*

Likewise after supper he took (2) the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. *Amen.*

[2] *Here he may take the cup in his hand.*

Then shall the Minister receive the Communion in both kinds, and proceed to deliver the same to the other Ministers, if any be present; after which he shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Then shall be said or sung by all the people:

[The Hymnal, 741]

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! Amen.

The Minister shall then proceed to administer the Communion to the People in order, kneeling, into their uncovered hands; and when he delivereth the Bread, he shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee;* and feed on him in *thy heart* by faith, with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the Cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee*, and be thankful.

[If the Consecrated bread or wine shall be all spent before all have communed, the Elder may Consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.]

[When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's table and place upon it what remaineth of the Consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.]

Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer; the People kneeling, and repeating after him every petition:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

After which the Minister and People shall say:

O Lord our heavenly Father, we thy humble servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to

accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this Holy Communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

Then shall be said or sung by all the People standing:

[The Hymnal, 742.]

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men! We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty!

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that

sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Then the Minister shall let the People depart with this Blessing:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

[The Minister is expected to use the full form, but, if straitened for time in the usual administration of the Holy Communion, he may omit any part of the service, except the Invitation, the Confession, and the Prayer of Consecration; and in its administration to the sick he may omit any part of the service except the Confession, the Prayer of Consecration, and the usual sentences in delivering the Bread and Wine, closing with the Lord's Prayer, extemporary supplication, and the Benediction.]

CHAPTER IV

MATRIMONY

¶ 517. Form for the Solemnization of Matrimony

[The parts in brackets throughout may be used or not at discretion.]

At the time appointed, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these wit-

nesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought, in Cana of Galilee; and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

[*And also speaking unto the Persons that are to be married, the Minister shall say:*

I require and charge you both, that if either of you know any impediment why ye may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, ye do now confess it: for be ye well assured, that so many as are married otherwise than God's Word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.]

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the Man, using his given name:

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The Man shall answer:

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman, using her given name:

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The Woman shall answer:

I will.

[*Then shall the Minister say:*

Who giveth this Woman to be married to this Man?]

[*Answer:* **I do.**]

[*Then the Minister shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and, using the given names, to say after him as followeth:*

I, *M.*, take thee, *N.*, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister:

I, *N.*, take thee, *M.*, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better,

for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.]

[*If the parties desire it, the Man shall here hand a Ring to the Minister, who shall return it to him, and direct him to place it on the third finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man shall say to the Woman, repeating after the Minister:*

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*]

Then shall the Minister pray thus:

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life: send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say, using the given names:

Forasmuch as *M.* and *N.* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands [and by giving and receiving a ring]; I pronounce that they are

husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. *Amen.*

And the Minister shall add this Blessing:

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister and the People together repeat the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, nallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CHAPTER V

BURIAL OF THE DEAD

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for burying the dead.]

¶ 518. Form for Burial of the Dead

The Minister, going before the Body, shall say:

I AM the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth on me shall never die. [John 11. 25, 26.]

For we know that if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in the heavens. [2 Cor. 5. 1.]

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are the temple thereof. And the city hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb. [Rev. 21. 22, 23.]

In the House or Church may be read one of the following Psalms:

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the

shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 90. 1, 2, 4-6, 12, 14, 16, 17

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Then may follow the reading of the Epistle, as follows:

1 Corinthians 15. 41-49, 53-58

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for

one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual *body*. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So also it is written, The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit. Howbeit that is not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; then that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is of heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? The sting of death is sin; and the power of sin is the law: but thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord.

Or this:

John 14. 1-3, 15-20, 25-27

Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God,

believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth: whom the world cannot receive; for it beholdeth him not, neither knoweth him: ye know him; for he abideth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you desolate: I come unto you. Yet a little while, and the world beholdeth me no more; but ye behold me: because I live, ye shall live also. In that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

These things have I spoken unto you, while yet abiding with you. But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful.

Or this:

Revelation 7. 9-17

After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of every nation and of *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes, and palms in their hands; and they cry with a great voice, saying,

Salvation unto our God who sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb.

And all the angels were standing round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying,

Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, *be* unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, These that are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they? And I say unto him, My lord, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they that come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God; and they serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall spread his tabernacle over them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun strike upon them, nor any heat: for the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life: and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.

At the Grave, when the Body is laid in the Earth, the Minister shall say:

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death; but grant us everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then, while the Earth may be cast upon the Body by some standing by, the Minister shall say:

Forasmuch as the spirit of the departed hath returned to the God who gave it, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed and made like unto his own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from heaven saying, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them.

Then shall the Minister say:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Response **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister may offer this Prayer:

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom

the souls of the faithful after death are in joy and felicity: we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect

O Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally: we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest in him; and at the general resurrection on the last day may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O Merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister and the People together repeat the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive

those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

¶ 519. Form for the Burial of a Child

The service may begin with a suitable Hymn, after which the Minister may offer the following Prayer, saying:

Let us pray.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, the refuge of all thy saints and the sure defense of all who put their trust in thee, lift upon us the light of thy countenance and give us peace. We know not thy counsels, O Lord, for thy thoughts are not our thoughts, nor thy ways our ways. Thou art infinitely holy, wise, and good, and thou doest all things well. Thou dost teach us in thy Holy Word that all things work together for good to them that love God, and that our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Comfort, we beseech thee, the hearts that sorrow in the death of this child; grant unto them the strengthening grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they and all we who trust thy fatherly goodness and care may rejoice in the promise of eternal life; and that we may be united again with our loved ones in thy heavenly and eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then may be read any of the following Scripture passages:

Mark 10. 13-16

And they were bringing unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 103. 13-18

Like as a Father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as grass: as the flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Revelation 22. 1-5

And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the midst of the street thereof. And on this side of the river and on that was the tree of life, bearing twelve *manner of* fruits, yielding its fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no curse any more: and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be therein: and his servants shall serve him; and they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* on their foreheads. And there shall be night no more; and they need no light of lamp, neither light of sun; for the Lord God shall give them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

At the Grave, where the Body is laid in the Earth, the Minister shall say:

Almighty and Most Merciful God our heavenly Father, from whom our spirits come and to whom they shall return, grant unto all sorrowing hearts the consolation of thy grace. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, who didst give thy life for our redemption, and who didst promise the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to thy people, strengthen, we beseech thee, the faith of these bereaved ones, that they may contemplate with peace the blessedness of that eternal home which thou hast prepared for all whom thou hast redeemed. Grant that they, and all others whose joy is turned into mourning, may not murmur nor faint under their affliction; but, cleaving more closely unto thee, O blessed Lord Christ, who art the resurrection and the life, may be led by thy Holy Spirit through all the trials of this uncertain life, till the day break and the shadows flee away. *Amen.*

Here the Minister and the People may unite in the Lord's Prayer.

Then shall the Minister dismiss the People with the Benediction.

CHAPTER VI

CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION

¶ 520. Form of Consecrating Bishops

[This service is not to be understood as an ordination to a higher Order in the Christian Ministry, beyond and above that of Elders or Presbyters, but as a solemn and fitting Consecration for the special and most sacred duties of Superintendency in the Church.]

When the day appointed for the consecration of Bishops is come, the service shall begin with hymn and prayer, after which shall be used the following:

The Collect

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst

give to thy holy Apostles, Elders, and Evangelists many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock: give grace, we beseech thee, to all the Ministers and Pastors of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy word and duly administer the godly discipline thereof; and grant to the people that they may obediently follow the same, that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall be read by one of the Elders:

Acts 20. 17-35

And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called to him the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them,

Ye yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, after what manner I was with you all the time, serving the Lord with all lowliness of mind, and with tears, and with trials which befell me by the plots of the Jews; how I shrank not from declaring unto you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly, and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the Holy Spirit testifieth unto me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But I hold not my life of any account as dear unto myself, so that I may accomplish my course, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I went about

preaching the kingdom, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I testify unto you this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I shrank not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God. Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood. I know that after my departing grievous wolves shall enter in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Wherefore watch ye, remembering that by the space of three years I ceased not to admonish every one night and day with tears. And now I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you the inheritance among all them that are sanctified. I coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Ye yourselves know that these hands ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring ye ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Then another shall read:

The Gospel. John 21. 15-17

So when they had broken their fast, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again a second time, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou me? He saith

unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Tend my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of John, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Or this:

Matthew 28. 18-20

And Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

After the Gospel and the Sermon are ended, the Elected Person shall be presented by two Elders unto the Bishop, the Elders saying:

We present unto you this Elder chosen to be consecrated a Bishop.

Then the Bishop shall call upon the Congregation present to pray, saying:

Brethren, it is written in the Gospel of Saint Luke, that our Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer, before he did choose and send forth his twelve apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles, that the disciples who were at Antioch did

fast and pray, before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth on their first mission to the Gentiles. Let us, therefore, following the example of our Saviour Christ, and his Apostles, give ourselves to prayer, before we admit and send forth *this person* presented to us, to the work whereunto we trust the Holy Spirit hath called him.

Then shall the following Prayer be offered by the Bishop:

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers offices in thy Church: mercifully behold *this thy servant* now called to the Work and Ministry of a Bishop. Replenish *him* so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn *him* with innocency of life, that both by word and deed *he* may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name, and the edifying and well governing of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall say to him that is to be Consecrated:

Brother, forasmuch as the Holy Scriptures command that we should not be hasty in laying on hands and admitting any person to government in the Church of Christ, which he hath purchased with no less price than the shedding of his own blood; before you are admitted to this administration, you will, in the fear of God, give answer to the questions which I now propound:

The Bishop. Are you persuaded that you are truly

called to this Ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer. **I am so persuaded.**

The Bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the same Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same?

Answer. **I am so persuaded and determined, by God's grace.**

The Bishop. Will you then faithfully exercise *yourself* in the same Holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of the same?

Answer. **I will do so, by the help of God.**

The Bishop. Will you be ready with faithful diligence to withstand, and to defend the Church against all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word and to use both public and private monitions as need shall require and occasion be given?

Answer. **I am ready, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you deny all ungodliness and worldly lust, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, that you may show *yourself* in all things an example of good works unto others, to the honor and glory of God?

Answer. **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, love, and peace

among all men; and faithfully exercise such discipline in the Church, as shall be committed unto you?

Answer. **I will so do, by the help of God.**

The Bishop. Will you be faithful in ordaining and appointing others; and will you ever seek to deal justly and kindly with your brethren of the ministry over whom you are placed as chief pastor?

Answer. **I will, by the help of God.**

The Bishop. Will you show *yourself* gentle, and be merciful for Christ's sake to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help?

Answer. **I will so show myself, by God's help.**

Then the Bishop shall say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same, that, he accomplishing in you the good work which he hath begun, you may be found blameless at the last day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the Congregation shall be desired secretly in their Prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things; for the which Prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

Then shall Veni, Creator Spiritus, *be said:*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight;

Anoint and cheer our soiléd face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but ONE;
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That ended, the Bishop shall say:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Response: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

The Bishop shall then say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only and dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastors and Teachers, to the edifying and making perfect of his Church: grant, we beseech thee, to *this thy servant*, such grace that *he* may evermore be ready to spread abroad thy Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with thee, and use the authority given *him*, not to destruction, but to salvation; not to hurt, but to help; so that as *a* wise and faithful *servant*, giving to the

family their portion in due season, *he* may at last be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishops and Elders present shall lay their hands upon the head of the Elected Person, kneeling before them, the consecrating Bishop saying:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a Bishop in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.* And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is in thee; for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind.

Then shall the Bishop deliver to him the Bible, saying:

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this book. Be diligent in them, that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and to thy doctrine; for by so doing thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcast, seek the lost; be so merciful that you may not be too remiss; so minister discipline that you forget not mercy; that when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you may receive the never-fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall be offered the following Prayers:

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down upon *this thy servant* thy heavenly blessing. Endue *him* with thy Holy Spirit that, preaching thy word, and exercising authority in thy Church, *he* may not only reprove, beseech, and rebuke with all patience and doctrine, but also may be *a* wholesome *example* in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, and in purity; so that, faithfully fulfilling *his* course, *he* may receive the crown of righteousness laid up by the Lord, the righteous Judge, who liveth and reigneth, one God with the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ 521. Form of Ordaining Elders

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, a sermon or exhortation may be given, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted Elders.]

After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be Ordained, and say:

I present unto you these persons to be ordained as Elders.

Then, their names having been read aloud, the Bishop shall say to the People:

BRETHREN, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain Elders. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy Ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.[1]

Then shall be said the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel, as followeth:

The Collect

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hast appointed divers orders of ministers in thy Church: mercifully behold these thy servants now called to the Office of Elders, and so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office, to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

The Epistle. Ephesians 4. 7, 8, 11-13

But unto each one of us was the grace given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith,

[1] If any crime or impediment be alleged, the Bishop shall desist from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.

When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive,
And gave gifts unto men.

And he gave some *to be* apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

After this shall be read for the Gospel part of the tenth chapter of Saint John:

John 10. 1, 2, 7-16

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

I am the door of the sheep. All that came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and go out, and shall find pasture. The thief cometh not, but that he may steal, and kill, and destroy: I came that they may have life, and may have *it* abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd layeth down his life for the sheep. He that is a hireling, and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, beholdeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth, and the wolf snatcheth them, and scattereth *them: he fleeth* because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know mine own, and mine own know me, even

as the Father knoweth me, and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock, one shepherd.

Then the Bishop shall say unto the Persons to be Ordained Elders:

You have heard, brethren, in your private examination, and in the holy lessons taken out of the gospel and the writings of the apostles, of how great importance this Office is whereunto ye are called. And now again we exhort you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye have in remembrance into how high a dignity and to how weighty an Office ye are called: that is to say, to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord; to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for, the Lord's family; to gather the outcasts, to seek the lost, and to be ever ready to spread abroad the gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with God.

Have always therefore printed in your remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which he bought with his death and for whom he shed his blood. The Church which you must serve is his spouse and his body. And if it shall happen, the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, ye know the greatness of the fault, and also the fearful punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider with yourselves the purpose of the ministry toward the children of God, toward the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your

care and diligence, until you have done all that lieth in you, according to your bounden duty, to bring all such as shall be committed to your charge unto that faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness in Christ, that there be no place left among you either for error in religion or for viciousness in life.

Forasmuch then as your office is both of so great excellency, and of so great difficulty, consider how studious ye ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures, and in framing the manners, both of yourselves and of them that specially pertain unto you; and how ye ought to forsake and set aside, as much as you may, all worldly cares and studies.

We have good hope that you have weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time: and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this Office, whereunto it has pleased God to call you: that, as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way; that you will continually pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Saviour Jesus Christ, for the assistance of the Holy Spirit; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures ye may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that ye may so endeavor to sanctify the lives of you and yours after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that ye may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now, that this present congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties, you shall

answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same:

The Bishop. Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the order of Elders?

Answer. **I think so.**

The Bishop. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

Answer. **I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.**

The Bishop. Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

Answer. **I will so do, by the help of the Lord.**

The Bishop. Will you be ready with all faithful diligence to withstand all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word; and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

Answer. **I will, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of God and of his Kingdom?

Answer. **I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as lieth in you, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Answer. **I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among them that shall be committed to your charge?

Answer. **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you reverently obey your chief Ministers, unto whom is committed the charge and government over you, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgments?

Answer. **I will so do, the Lord being my helper.**

Then shall the Bishop say:

Almighty God, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[After this the Congregation shall be desired secretly in their Prayers to make their humble supplications to God for all these things: for the which Prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

After which shall be said by the Bishop, the Persons to be ordained Elders all kneeling, Veni, Creator Spiritus, *the Bishop beginning, and the Elders and others that are present answering by verse as followeth:*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight;
Anoint and cheer our soiléd face
With the abundance of thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but ONE;
That through the ages all along
This may be our endless song:
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Then the Bishop shall pray in this wise, and say:

Let us pray.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, we bless and magnify thy holy name for the gift of thy most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and for all his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors, whom he sent abroad into the world. For these so great benefits of thy eternal goodness, and that thou hast called these thy servants here present to the same holy Office and Ministry, we render unto thee our most hearty thanks. And now, O Lord, we most humbly beseech thee to grant that by these thy Ministers, and by those over whom they shall be appointed, thy holy name may be forever

glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop and the Elders present shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receiveth the Order of Elders; the Receivers humbly kneeling, and the Bishop saying:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Spirit for the office and work of an Elder in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church, through the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the Word of God, and of his Holy Sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop shall deliver to every one of them, kneeling, the Bible into his hands, saying:

Take thou authority as an Elder in the Church, to preach the Word of God, and to administer the Holy Sacraments in the Congregation.

Then the Bishop shall offer the following Prayer:

Most Merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants thy heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy word spoken by their mouths may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to receive what they shall deliver out of thy Word as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom, though Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy

most gracious favor, and further us by thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

[If on the same day the Order of Deacons be given to some, and that of Elders to others, the Deacons shall be first presented, and then the Elders. The Collects shall both be used; first that for Deacons, then that for Elders. The Epistle shall be Ephesians 4, as before in this office; immediately after which, they who are to be ordained Deacons shall be examined and ordained as is below prescribed. Then the Gospel having been read, which shall be John 10, as before in this office, they who are to be ordained Elders shall likewise be examined and ordained, as in this office before appointed.]

¶ 522. Form of Ordaining Deacons

[When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, a sermon or exhortation may be given, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted to the Order of Deacons.]

After which, one of the Elders shall present unto the Bishop all them that are to be Ordained, and say:

I present unto you these persons to be ordained as Deacons.

Then, their names having been read aloud, the Bishop shall say to the People:

BRETHREN, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain Deacons. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that

they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any crime or impediment in any of them, for the which he ought not to be received into this holy Ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be alleged, the Bishop shall desist from ordaining that person, until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the same.]

Then shall be read the following Collect and Epistle:

The Collect

Almighty God, who by thy divine providence hast appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church, and didst inspire thy Apostles to choose into the Order of Deacons thy first martyr, Saint Stephen, with others: mercifully behold these thy servants, now called to the like Office and Administration; so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this Office to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Epistle. 1 Timothy 3: 8-13

Deacons in like manner *must be* grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons, if they be blameless. Women in like manner *must be* grave, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be

husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well. For they that have served well as deacons gain to themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Then shall the Bishop, in the presence of the People, examine every one of those who are to be Ordained, after this manner following:

The Bishop. Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the office of the Ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

Answer. **I trust so.**

The Bishop. Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Answer. **I do believe them.**

The Bishop. Will you diligently read and expound the same unto the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

Answer. **I will.**

The Bishop. It appertaineth to the office of a Deacon to assist the Elder in divine service, and especially when he ministereth the Holy Communion, to help him in the distribution thereof; to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youth; and to baptize. And furthermore, it is his office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

Answer. **I will do so, by the help of God.**

The Bishop. Will you apply all your diligence to frame and fashion your own lives and the lives of

your families according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

Answer. **I will do so, the Lord being my helper.**

The Bishop. Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions?

Answer. **I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.**

Then the Bishop, laying his hands severally upon the head of every one of them, shall say:

Take thou authority to execute the office of a Deacon in the Church of God; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall the Bishop deliver to every one of them the Bible, saying:

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the Church of God, and to preach the Word.

Then one appointed by the Bishop shall read the Gospel:

Luke 12. 35-38

Let your loins be girded about, and your lamps burning; and be ye yourselves like unto men looking for their lord, when he shall return from the marriage feast; that, when he cometh and knocketh, they may straightway open unto him. Blessed are those

servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and shall come and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, and if in the third, and find *them* so, blessed are those *servants*.

Immediately before the Benediction shall be said these Collects following:

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who of thy great goodness hast vouchsafed to accept and take these thy servants into the office of Deacons in thy Church: make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble, and constant in their ministration, and to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they, continuing ever stable and strong in thy Son Jesus Christ, may so well behave themselves in this office that they may be found worthy to be called into the higher Ministries in thy Church, through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ: to whom be glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ 523. Form for Consecration of Deaconesses

The following Order of Service may be preceded by a sermon or address, with such other exercises as may be desired; after which the President of the Conference Deaconess Board, or some one named, shall present those to be consecrated Deaconesses to the Bishop or other Consecrator.

Then shall be sung Hymn 423 *or other appropriate Hymn*

Then shall the following Scripture be read by the Leader, or by the Leader and Congregation responsively:

Matthew 25. 31-40

But when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit on the throne of his glory:

And before him shall be gathered all the nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats;

And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was hungry, and ye gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in;

Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed thee? or athirst, and gave thee drink?

And when saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

And when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.

HYMN

[Or other selection from The Hymnal, if preferred.]

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee;
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.

Take my will and make it thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is thine own,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my God, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

After which the Consecrator shall say:

Let us pray.

O eternal God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who didst call Phœbe and Dorcas into the service of thy Church, look upon *these thy servants* who *are* now to be set apart to the office of Deaconess, and grant *them* thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may worthily discharge the work committed to *them*, to the blessing of mankind and the praise of thy Christ, our adorable Saviour. *Amen.*

Then shall the Consecrator address the Candidates, saying:

Dearly Beloved, we rejoice with you, that in the good providence of God a door of usefulness has been opened for you in the service of the Church of Christ. To you are accorded peculiar privileges and priceless opportunities. Released from other cares, you are to give yourselves without reservation to the service of the Lord of the vineyard, ready for any duty which may fall to your lot. Like our gracious Master, you will henceforth go about doing good, ministering to the wants of a suffering, sorrowing, and sin-laden world. The Church now solemnly sets you apart for this special service. You are to minister to the poor, visit the sick, pray with the dying, care for the orphan, seek the wandering, comfort the sorrowing, and save the sinning. Such service is one which confers a great honor, but also lays upon you a solemn responsibility. What you have done alone with God, in consecrating your lives to this service, you are now to do formally and publicly in the presence of the Church.

Consecrator. Do you believe that you have been led by the providence of God to engage in this work, and to assume the duties of this office?

Answer. **I do.**

Consecrator. Do you, in the presence of God and of this congregation, promise faithfully to perform the duties of a Deaconess in the Church of God?

Answer. **I do.**

Consecrator. Do you fully accept the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God?

Answer. **I do.**

Consecrator. Will you strive so to live that you may convey the blessed sense of God's presence to the hearts and homes of those to whom you minister?

Answer. **I will.**

Consecrator. Will you cheerfully accept the direction of those whom the Church may set over you in the prosecution of this work?

Answer. **I will.**

Then shall the Candidates kneel for a brief season in silent Prayer, after which the Consecrator shall say:

May the Spirit of the Living God descend upon you and abide with you evermore. May he impart to you grace for every trial, and strength for every service. May his presence be to you a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night; and may the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and evermore. *Amen.*

Then shall the Candidates rise, and the Consecrator, taking the right hand of each one, shall say:

I admit thee to the office of a Deaconess in the

Church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall be sung Hymn 411, *or other suitable Hymn, followed by the Benediction*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CHAPTER VII

CORNER STONE AND DEDICATION

¶ 524. Form for Laying the Corner Stone of a Church

The Minister, standing near the place where the Stone is to be laid, shall say unto the Congregation:

DEARLY BELOVED, we are taught in the Word of God, that, although the heaven of heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet his delight is ever with the sons of men, and that wherever two or three are gathered in his name, there is he in the midst of them. And in all ages his servants have separated certain places for his worship: as Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; as Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; as Solomon builded a temple for the Lord, which he filled with the glory of his presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the Corner Stone of a new house for the worship of the

God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing his praise, and in prayer for his blessing on this our undertaking.

Let one of the Hymns 656-666, *from The Hymnal, be sung.*

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Most glorious God, the heaven is thy throne and the earth is thy footstool; what house then can be builded for thee, or where is the place of thy rest? Yet, blessed be thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks unto thy holy name that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to erect in this place a house for thy worship. We thank thee for thy grace which has inclined them to contribute of their substance for the glory of thy name: and we pray thee to continue thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that peace and harmony may prevail in the counsels of thy servants, and that no selfish or divided aims may find place among them. May the work of this building be completed without hurt or accident to any person, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship thee in the temple here to be builded, may so serve and please thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to that temple on high, even to

the holy place made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. *Amen.*

Accept these our prayers, we beseech thee, O Lord, for the sake of thy dear Son; and to thee, the only true and living God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be honor, praise, and glory, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and People may read it in alternate verses:

Psalm 132. 1-9, 13-16

Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions:

How he sware unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids,

Until I find out a place for the Lord, a habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.

This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.

I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

The Lesson. 1 Corinthians 3. 9-17

For we are God's fellow-workers: ye are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given unto me, as a wise master-builder I laid a foundation; and another buildeth thereon. But let each man take heed how he buildeth thereon. For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. But if any man buildeth on the foundation gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, stubble; each man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself shall prove each man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work shall abide which he built thereon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as through fire. Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man destroyeth the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, and such are ye.

Then shall follow the Sermon, or an address suitable to the occasion, after which the Contributions of the People shall be received.

[Then shall the Minister, standing by the stone, exhibit to the Congregation a box to be placed in an excavation of the stone. It may contain a copy of the Bible, the Hymn Book, the Discipline, the Church Year Book for the year, Church periodicals of recent date, the names of the pastor, trustees, and building committee of the Church, with such other documents as may be desired. A list of these may be read, after which the Minister shall deposit the box in the stone and cover it; and the stone shall be laid and adjusted by the Minister, assisted by the Builder.

Then shall the Minister say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we lay this corner stone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated to the service of Almighty God according to the order and usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. *Amen.*

Here may be offered extemporary prayer.

Then shall the Minister and the People say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The service shall conclude with a Doxology and the Benediction.

¶ 525. Form for the Dedication of a Church

The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED, the Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to his name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory and how in the second temple he manifested himself still more gloriously. And the gospel approves and commends the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that he will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the per-

formance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to his name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed, and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship his name in this place.

Let one of the Hymns 656-666, *from The Hymnal, be sung. Afterward let extemporary Prayer be offered, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Congregation all kneeling.*

Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read:

The First Lesson. 2 Chronicles 6. 1, 2, 18-21, 40-42; 7. 1-4

Then spake Solomon, Jehovah hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness. But I have built thee a house of habitation, and a place for thee to dwell in for ever.

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have builded! Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Jehovah my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee; that thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night, even toward the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldest put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall pray toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel,

when they shall pray toward this place: yea, hear thou from thy dwelling-place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

Now, O my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent, unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O Jehovah God, into thy resting-place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Jehovah God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Jehovah God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember *thy* lovingkindnesses to David thy servant.

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of Jehovah filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of Jehovah, because the glory of Jehovah filled Jehovah's house. And all the children of Israel looked on, when the fire came down, and the glory of Jehovah was upon the house; and they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshiped, and gave thanks unto Jehovah, *saying*, For he is good; for his lovingkindness *endureth* for ever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifice before Jehovah.

The Second Lesson. Hebrews 10. 19-25

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by the way which he dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and *having* a great priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience: and

having our body washed with pure water, let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not; for he is faithful that promised: and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day drawing nigh.

Then shall one of the Hymns 656-666, *from The Hymnal, be sung; after which the Minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion. Contributions shall then be received from the People.*

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the Congregation may read it alternately:

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Then let the Trustees stand up before the Altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the Minister:

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a church for the worship and service of Almighty God.

Then shall the Minister request the Congregation to stand, while he repeats the following Declaration:

Dearly Beloved, it is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this church, we dedicate it to his service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, let us now dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God. To him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of his great name, and to the advancement of his kingdom.

Then shall the Minister say these words of Dedication, all the People standing and responding in the words printed in black face type:

O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Father:

To thee we dedicate this church.

Son of God, the Only Begotten of the Father, Head over all things to the Church, which is thy Body: Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, and King of thy people:

To thee we dedicate this church.

God the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son, our Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter:

To thee we dedicate this church.

Eternal, Holy, and Glorious Trinity, three Persons, one God.

To thee we dedicate this church.

Then, the Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer:

O Most Glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with a due apprehension of thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified,

they may always perform a service acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Regard, O Lord, the supplication of thy servants, that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the body and blood of Christ may come to that holy Ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and, being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain forgiveness of their sins, and all other benefits of his passion. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy Holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to perform the same. *Amen.*

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come into this place of thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength. Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night; and let thine ears be ready toward the prayers of thy children, which they shall make unto thee in this place. And whensoever thy servants shall make to thee their petitions here, do thou hear them from heaven, thy dwelling place, the throne of the glory of thy kingdom; and when thou hearest, forgive. Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that here and elsewhere thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and thy saints rejoice in thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the glorious temple above; the house not made with

hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

The service shall conclude with a Doxology and Benediction.

NOTE.—The Central Conference of Southern Asia is authorized to prepare and translate into the vernaculars simplified and adapted forms of such parts of the Ritual as may be deemed necessary, such portions to receive the sanction of the Board of Bishops

APPENDIX

NOTE.—The matter contained in the Appendix to the Discipline is sufficiently important to justify publication. Much of it is taken from the General Conference Journals, and is therefore the action of the General Conference. Some portions have been here inserted by specific direction; other portions are suggestive and useful, such as Post Office Addresses, Administrative Boards, Forms, and the Rules of Order of the General Conference. The Courses of Study have been prepared under the authority of the General Conference, and are inserted for convenient reference.

While unnecessary changes have been avoided, students of the Book of Discipline will note with pleasure a more distinct separation between THE CONSTITUTION and the LEGISLATION; and also the reference by paragraphs (¶¶) instead of pages in both the CONTENTS and the INDEX.

The statistical scheme has been greatly simplified and improved by action of the authorized Committee on Statistical Forms; and the Rules of Order have been restated by the Committee on Rules of Order appointed by the General Conference.

Our study of its Constitution and statutory enactments has deepened our love and strengthened our respect for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and we commend to the Ministry and Membership this new edition of the Discipline.

DAVID G. DOWNEY,
Editor, *ex officio.*
LUTHER BARTON WILSON,
EDWIN LOCKE,
Associate Editors.

I. POST OFFICE ADDRESSES OF BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS
II. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIETIES
III. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
IV. GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS
V. GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS
VI. PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE
VII. GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS
VIII. UNIFICATION AND FEDERATION
IX. FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS
X. COURSES OF STUDY

CHAPTER I

POST OFFICE ADDRESSES OF BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS

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WILLIAM BURT,	455 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York
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WILLIAM F. ANDERSON,	420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
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WILLIAM A. QUAYLE,	Saint Louis, Missouri
WILSON S. LEWIS,	Foochow, China
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FRANK M. BRISTOL,	Chattanooga, Tennessee
HOMER C. STUNTZ,	Omaha, Nebraska
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WILLIAM F. OLDHAM,	Buenos Ayres, Argentine, South America
CHARLES B. MITCHELL,	Saint Paul, Minnesota
FRANKLIN HAMILTON,	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

¶ 527. Missionary Bishops

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MERRIMAN C. HARRIS,	Tokyo, Japan
JOHN W. ROBINSON,	Bombay, India
WILLIAM P. EVELAND,[1]	Manila, P. I.
ALEXANDER P. CAMPHOR,	Monrovia, Liberia
EBEN S. JOHNSON,	Umtali, Rhodesia, South Africa

¶ 528. Secretary of General Conference

EDWIN LOCKE, Topeka, Kansas

¶ 529. The Methodist Book Concern

PUBLISHING AGENTS

HENRY C. JENNINGS, General Agent, 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois
New York: EDWIN R. GRAHAM, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York
Cincinnati: JOHN H. RACE, 420–28 Plum Street

GEORGE P. MAINS, *Emeritus*, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

DEPOSITORIES

581 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts
105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
12 Elizabeth Street, East, Detroit, Michigan
734–40 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois
1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri
5 & 7 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

¶ 530. Editors

§ 1. ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

WILLIAM V. KELLEY: Methodist Review,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

JAMES R. JOY: The Christian Advocate,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

HENRY H. MEYER: Sunday School Publications,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

[1] Deceased.

JOHN J. WALLACE: Pittsburgh Christian Advocate,
105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
ERNEST C. WAREING: Western Christian Advocate,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
ALBERT J. NAST: Der Christliche Apologete,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
A. J. BUCHER: Haus und Herd,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
E. ROBB ZARING: Northwestern Christian Advocate,
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois
CLAUDIUS B. SPENCER: Central Christian Advocate,
1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri
ROBERT E. JONES, Southwestern Christian Advocate,
631 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
ROBERT H. HUGHES: Pacific Christian Advocate,
Portland, Oregon
DAN B. BRUMMITT: The Epworth Herald,
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois
FRANK M. LARKIN: California Christian Advocate,
5 & 7 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California
J. M. MELEAR: Methodist Advocate-Journal,
Athens, Tennessee

§ 2. ELECTED BY THE BOOK COMMITTEE

DAVID G. DOWNEY: Book Editor,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

¶ 531. Corresponding Secretaries

§ 1. ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

S. EARL TAYLOR,
FRANK MASON NORTH, } Board of Foreign Missions,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

DAVID D. FORSYTH, } Board of Home Missions and Church Extension,
Seventeenth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

PATRICK J. MAVEETY,
I. GARLAND PENN, } Freedmen's Aid Society,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

ABRAM W. HARRIS: Board of Education,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

EDGAR BLAKE: Board of Sunday Schools,
58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois

JOSEPH B. HINGELEY: Board of Conference Claimants,
820 Garland Building, Chicago, Illinois

WILBUR F. SHERIDAN: *General Secretary:* Epworth League,
740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

§ 2. ELECTED BY THE BOARDS

CLARENCE TRUE WILSON: Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals,
204 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C.

DANIEL W. HOWELL: General Deaconess Board,
483 Ellicott Square, Buffalo, New York

¶ 532. Treasurers and Assistant Treasurers

GEORGE M. FOWLES, *Treasurer:* Board of Foreign Missions,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

SAMUEL SHAW, *Treasurer:* Board of Home Missions and Church Extension,
Arch and Seventeenth Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

JOHN H. RACE, *Treasurer:* Freedmen's Aid Society,
420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

J. EDGAR LEAYCRAFT,[1] *Treasurer:* Board of Education,
19 West Forty-second Street, New York

GEORGE P. MAINS, *Treasurer:* Episcopal Fund,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

EDWIN R. GRAHAM, *Assistant Treasurer:* Episcopal Fund,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

FRANKLIN I. BODINE, *Treasurer:* Chartered Fund,
129 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

JESSE R. CLARK, *Treasurer:* Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

EDWIN R. GRAHAM, *Treasurer:* Board of Sunday Schools,
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

WILLIAM FOULKE, *Treasurer:* American Bible Society,
Bible House, Astor Place, New York

MARVIN CAMPBELL, *Treasurer:* Board of Conference Claimants,
820 Garland Building, Chicago, Illinois

OSCAR P. MILLER, *Treasurer:* General Conference Expense Fund,
Rock Rapids, Iowa

WILLIAM T. GALLIHER, *Treasurer:* Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals,
204 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C.

EDGAR T. WELCH, *Treasurer:* General Deaconess Board,
Westfield, New York.

[1] Deceased.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND SOCIETIES

ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OR APPOINTED BY THE BISHOPS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

¶ 533. Book Committee

§ 1. District Members

District	Name	Conference	Term Expires
I.	G. C. Douglass Saratoga Springs, New York.	Troy	1924
II.	John Handley Salem, New Jersey	New Jersey	1920
III.	William A. Notman 33 Colonial Circle, Buffalo, New York.	Genesee	1924
IV.	W. F. Conner The King Edward, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.	Pittsburgh	1920
V.	R. T. Stevenson Delaware, Ohio.	North-East Ohio	1924
VI.	J. W. Fisher Newport, Tennessee.	Holston	1920
VII.	M. S. Davage Sedalia, Missouri.	Louisiana	1920
VIII.	J. Luther Taylor Pittsburg, Kansas.	Kansas	1924
IX.	H. M. Havner Marengo, Iowa.	Iowa	1920
X.	Joe Bell Galesburg, Illinois.	Central Illinois	1920
XI.	A. L. Parker 74 Hazelwood Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.	Detroit	1924
XII.	J. S. Ulland Fergus Falls, Minnesota.	Northern Minnesota	1920
XIII.	Charles A. J. Walker 1539 Madison Avenue, Covington, Kentucky.	Central German	1924
XIV.	Rolla V. Watt 201 Sansome Street, San Francisco, California.	California	1920
XV.	Charles C. Rarick 217 Morris Street, Portland, Oregon.	Oregon	1924

§ 2. Local Committee at New York

Name	Conference	Term Expires
J. W. Pearsall, Ridgewood, New Jersey.	Newark	1920
Frank A. Horne, 161 Chambers Street, New York.	New York East	1920
Silas Peirce, 59 Commercial Street, Boston, Massachusetts.	New England	1924
J. E. Holmes, 506 Sixth Street, Brooklyn, New York.	New York East	1920
E. S. Tipple, Madison, New Jersey.	New York	1924

§ 3. Local Committee at Cincinnati

Name	Conference	Term Expires
Jesse R. Clark, Union Central Life Building.	West Ohio	1920
E. E. Shipley, 603 First National Bank Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.	West Ohio	1924
D. R. Anderson, 4516 North Winchester Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.	Rock River	1924
C. M. Van Pelt, 33 Oak Hill Avenue, Delaware, Ohio.	West Ohio	1924
Herbert Scott, 516 North Street, Zanesville, Ohio.	Ohio	1920

¶ 534. Board of Foreign Missions

OFFICE: 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

Corresponding Secretaries, S. EARL TAYLOR,
FRANK MASON NORTH.

Recording Secretary, FRANK MASON NORTH.
Treasurer, GEORGE M. FOWLES.

MANAGERS

Bishops and Missionary Bishops, *ex officio*.

MINISTERS

J. C. Baker,
Fred E. Beauchop,
George H. Bickley,
Dillon Bronson,
E. A. Dent,
D. G. Downey,
George P. Eckman,
F. B. Fisher,
J. F. Goucher,
W. I. Haven,
S. J. Herben,
G. W. Iser,
W. V. Kelley,
Wallace MacMullen,
D. A. McBurney,
T. E. Newland,
W. H. Phelps,
E. G. Richardson,
William D. Reed,
S. P. Salmon,
H. L. Smith,
Merle N. Smith,
A. B. Storms,
E. S. Tipple,
R. B. Urmy.

LAYMEN

George Warren Brown,
W. W. Carman,
E. S. Collins,
S. A. Daniels,
C. R. Elliott,
W. J. Elliott,
C. H. Fahs,
James N. Gamble,
Charles Gibson,
W. O. Gantz,
Elijah W. Halford,
Albert W. Harris,
G. B. Hodgman,
F. A. Horne,
J. R. Joy,
J. E. Leaycraft,[1]
Willis T. McConnell,
E. M. McBrier,
J. M. Mitchell,
Watson Moore,
John R. Mott,
A. M. Schoyer,
W. J. Stitt,
C. E. Welch.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District	Name	District	Name
I.	E. S. Ninde,	VIII.	O. G. Markham,
II.	F. L. Brown,	IX.	Titus Lowe,
III.	F. T. Keeney,	X.	William T. Jennings,
IV.	John T. Stone,	XI.	R. H. Webber,
V.	L. C. Sparks,	XII.	A. P. Nelson,
VI.	C. M. Fuller,	XIII.	J. H. Klaus,
VII.	N. R. Clay,	XIV.	A. M. Drew,

XV. J. D. Gillilan.

¶ 535. Board of Home Missions and Church Extension

OFFICE: Arch and Seventeenth Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Corresponding Secretary, DAVID D. FORSYTH.

MANAGERS

Ex officio without vote, all effective Bishops resident in the United States:

EX OFFICIO

The Corresponding Secretary.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District	Name	District	Name
I.	Frederick Palladino,	VIII.	E. P. Anderson,
	F. C. Dunn,		J. C. Ruppenthal,
II.	Allan MacRossie,	IX.	U. G. Brown,
	John Roberts,		Frank Dunning,
III.	S. J. Greenfield,	X.	John Thompson,
	G. B. Burd,		Leslie J. Owen,
IV.	W. L. McDowell,	XI.	C. B. Allen,
	G. G. Hutchison,		W. C. Belman,
V.	E. L. Waldorf,	XII.	J. G. Moore,
	E. D. Bancroft,		Gilbert Gutterson,
VI.	J. S. Burnett,	XIII.	F. W. Mueller,
	C. W. Kinne,		F. L. Dochterman,
VII.	W. H. Logan,	XIV.	John Stephens,
	S. H. Cunningham,		A. J. Wallace,

XV. Robert Warner, F. A. Hazeltine.

[1] Deceased.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

MINISTERS

Bishop Joseph F. Berry.

C. E. Adamson, C. W. Straw,
G. B. Burns, M. E. Snyder,
S. W. Gehrett, G. G. Vogel,
L. C. Murdock, Robert Watt,
E. M. Stevens, J. G. Wilson.

LAYMEN

C. E. Anderson, W. O. Hoffecker,
Fisher Dalrymple, J. E. Ingram,
J. S. Felton, E. L. Kidney,
T. R. Fort, Jr. B. G. Moore,
C. D. Foss, W. S. Pilling,
W. H. G. Gould, C. P. Repp.

A. P. Sloan.

¶ 536. Freedmen's Aid Society

OFFICE: 420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

President, WILLIAM F. ANDERSON.
First Vice-President, FREDERICK D. LEETE.
Second Vice-President, WILBUR P. THIRKIELD.
Third Vice-President, C. E. SCHENK.
Treasurer, JOHN H. RACE.
Corresponding Secretaries, PATRICK J. MAVEETY.

I. GARLAND PENN.

Recording Secretary, D. LEE AULTMAN.

MANAGERS

Bishops Anderson, McConnell, Leete, Thirkield, Quayle, and Bristol.

MINISTERS

Joseph C. Hartzell, John H. Race
Henry C. Jennings C. E. Schenk
Albert J. Nast V. F. Brown,
D. Lee Aultman, W. B. Slutz,
Herbert Scott, E. R. Overley,
Elam A. White, W. H. Wehrly.

LAYMEN

R. B. McRary, C. F. Coffin,
E. P. Marshall, C. L. Swain,
E. R. Graham, H. H. Garrison
Lewis N. Gatch, Harlan C. West,
E. C. Harley, George D. Webb,
E. D. Lyon, C. W. Bennett.

¶ 537. Board of Education

OFFICE: 150 Fifth Avenue, New York

Corresponding Secretary, ABRAM W. HARRIS.

Recording Secretary, EZRA S. TIPPLE.

Treasurer, J. EDGAR LEAYCRAFT.[1]

MANAGERS

TERM TO EXPIRE IN 1920

Bishop W. F. Anderson, Bishop Theodore S. Henderson, Bishop Thomas Nicholson, William F. King, Gottlieb Golder, Edward L. Mills, Charles E. Patterson, John H. Race, James W. Pearsall, R. S. Ingraham, W. E. Stone, Frank E. Mossman.

TERM TO EXPIRE IN 1924

Bishop Edwin H. Hughes, President Ezra S. Tipple, Robert F. Raymond, Marcus D. Buell, J. C. Nicholson, C. W. Laycock, Joseph R. Harker, W. A. Rankin,[1] E. L. Blaine, J. W. Kinnear, E. C. Crossett, Charles Scott, Jr.

TERM TO EXPIRE IN 1928

Bishop W. F. McDowell, George H. Bridgman, Leonard D. Baldwin, J. Edgar Leaycraft,[1] A. L. Johnson, M. W. Dogan, Samuel Dickie, H. N. Curtis, W. V. Kelley, O. E. Kriege, J. L. Seaton, Albert Edwin Smith.

¶ 538. University Senate

At Large, J. R. DAY, *Syracuse University*, President

District	Name	Institution
I.	L. H. Murlin	Boston University
II.	W. A. Shanklin	Wesleyan University
III.	W. H. Crawford	Allegheny College
IV.	W. W. Guth	Goucher College
V.	W. H. McMaster	Mount Union College
VI.	F. W. Hixson	University of Chattanooga
VII.	J. M. Cox	Philander Smith College
VIII.	W. N. Mason	Baker University
IX.	E. A. Schell	Iowa Wesleyan College
X.	T. F. Holgate	Northwestern University
XI.	G. R. Grose	De Pauw University
XII.	Samuel Plantz	Lawrence College
XIII.	A. L. Breslich	German Wallace College
XIV.	G. F. Bovard	University of Southern California
XV.	C. G. Doney	Willamettte University

[1] Deceased.

¶ 539. Board of Sunday Schools

OFFICE: 58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois

Corresponding Secretary, EDGAR BLAKE.
Treasurer, EDWIN R. GRAHAM.

MANAGERS

Bishops Stuntz, Nicholson, and M. S. Hughes.

EX OFFICIO

Edgar Blake, *Corresponding Secretary.*
Henry H. Meyer, *Editor Sunday School Publications.*

ADVISORY MEMBER

A. J. Bucher, *Editor German Sunday School Publications.*

AT LARGE

F. L. Brown, E. R. Graham, L. B. Longacre, B. F. Shipp, C. M. Stuart, W. J. Thompson, W. E. Carpenter, R. P. Hollett, N. E. Richardson.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

District	Name	District	Name
I.	T. E. Cramer,	VIII.	W. C. Hanson,
II.	C. F. Reisner,	IX.	I. B. Schreckengast,
III.	G. F. Shepard,	X.	G. W. Dixon,
IV.	C. W. Flesher,	XI.	W. F. Kendrick,
V.	W. D. Cole,	XII.	F. A. Cone,
VI.	J. W. Hervey,	XIII.	Eugene Weiffenbach,
VII.	G. W. Arnold,	XIV.	Alfred Inwood.

XV. J. T. Abbett.

¶ 540. Board of Conference Claimants

OFFICE: 820 Garland Building, Chicago, Illinois

President, BISHOP CHARLES BAYARD MITCHELL.
Vice-President, JOSEPH W. VAN CLEVE.
Corresponding Secretary, JOSEPH B. HINGELEY.
Recording Secretary, JULIUS A. MULFINGER.
Treasurer, MARVIN CAMPBELL.

BOARD

BISHOP CHARLES BAYARD MITCHELL.
JOSEPH B. HINGELEY.

CLASS 1—EIGHT YEARS

MINISTERS

Joseph W. Van Cleve, Perry Millar,
Charles W. Baldwin, Frederick T. Keeney.

LAYMEN

John E. Andrus, John O. Pew,
George Warren Brown, Robert W. Campbell.

CLASS 2—FOUR YEARS

MINISTERS

E. C. E. Dorion, M. S. Marble,
L. E. Lennox.

LAYMEN

Oscar P. Miller, Frank A. Freeman,
Benjamin F. Adams, Charles E. Waterman.

¶ 541. Epworth League

OFFICE: 740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

BOARD OF CONTROL

BISHOP ADNA W. LEONARD, *President*
General Secretary, WILBUR F. SHERIDAN
Editor Epworth Herald, DAN B. BRUMMITT

District	Name	Conference
I.	D. B. Holt	Maine
II.	A. C. Monagle	New York East
III.	W. E. Brown	Central New York
IV.	R. K. Stephenson	Wilmington
V.	J. J. Hulse	West Ohio
VI.	S. M. Clark	West Tennessee
VII.	S. M. Strayhorne	Tennessee
VIII.	W. F. Burris	Missouri
IX.	William H. Spence	Northwest Iowa
X.	J. B. Stout	Southern Illinois
XI.	W. W. Martin	North Indiana
XII.	A. P. Nelson	West Wisconsin
XIII.	Edwin S. Havighurst	West German
XIV.	J. J. Lace	Colorado
XV.	Robt. Brumblay	Columbia River

AT LARGE

E. H. Forkel — Rock River
Carl F. Price — New York
C. E. Guthrie — Genesee

ADVISORY MEMBERS

A. J. Bucher — Central German
W. W. Lucas — Mississippi
Miss Emma A. Robinson — Rock River

¶ 542. American Bible Society

OFFICE: Bible House, Astor Place, New York

Corresponding Secretaries, JOHN FOX and WILLIAM INGRAHAM HAVEN
Treasurer, WILLIAM FOULKE.

¶ 543. Board of Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals

OFFICE: 204 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C.
General Secretary, CLARENCE TRUE WILSON.

President, BISHOP WILLIAM F. MCDOWELL.
Vice-President, STEPHEN J. HERBEN.
Secretary, REV. JOHN MACMURRAY.
Treasurer, WILLIAM T. GALLIHER.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Bishop William F. McDowell.
Clarence True Wilson, *ex officio*.

E. H. Anderson,
William H. Anderson,
Walter P. Ballinger,
Rev. H. M. Cameron,
William T. Galliher,
Melville Gambrill,
Charles K. Haddon,
Rev. J. F. Heisse,
Rev. Stephen J. Herben,
Rev. A. G. Kynett,
Henry A. Larson,
John C. Letts,
Rev. John MacMurray,
J. C. McDowell,
William E. Massey,
Jno. T. Stone,
Andrew S. Thomas,
Rev. W. R. Wedderspoon,
Alonzo E. Wilson,
John W. Young.

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Hon. Josephus Daniels,
Congressman Simeon D. Fess,
Senator Wesley L. Jones,
James R. Joy,
Judge Charles A. Pollock,
Congressman Charles E. Randall,
Hon. William Saulsbury,
Senator Morris Sheppard,
Senator Addison T. Smith,
Rev. Claudius B. Spencer.

¶ 544. General Deaconess Board

GENERAL OFFICE: 483 Ellicott Square, Buffalo, New York
Corresponding Secretary, DANIEL W. HOWELL.
Treasurer, EDGAR T. WELCH, Westfield, N. Y.
Bishops Burt, Bristol, and Hamilton
At Large: Wallace MacMullen, F. W. Luce, Ray Allen.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

I. G. B. Dean,
II. A. S. Kavanagh,
III. Edgar T. Welch,
IV. W. L. McDowell,
V. E. O. Crist,
VI. Herman Ferger,
VII. J. B. F. Shaw,
VIII. A. E. Kirk,
IX. George M. Spurlock,
X. T. P. Frost,
XI. A. B. Leonard,
XII. Thomas D. Williams,
XIII. Christian Golder,
XIV. G. W. White,
XV. J. A. Martin.

¶ 545. Trustees of Chartered Fund

OFFICE: 129 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
President, HENRY J. MARIS.
Secretary, EDGAR J. PERSHING.
Treasurer, FRANKLIN I. BODINE.

Avery D. Harrington,
William H. Rometsch,
Raymond W. Tunnell,
Cyrus D. Foss, Jr.,
George I. Bodine, Jr.,
John Baker Tuttle.

¶ 546. Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church

OFFICE: 420–28 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
President, JAMES N. GAMBLE.
Secretary, JOHN PEARSON.
Treasurer, JESSE R. CLARK.

CLASS 1. TERM EXPIRES IN EIGHT YEARS

Ministers: Bishop William F. Anderson, Charles E. Schenk, Frank S. Tincher.
Laymen: Jesse R. Clark, Merrill C. Slutes, F. L. Cook.

CLASS 2. TERM EXPIRES IN FOUR YEARS

Ministers: Frank G. Mitchell, John Pearson, L. C. Bentley.
Laymen: James N. Gamble, Herbert A. Winans, E. I. Antrim.

¶ 547. Trustees of John Street Church

John Street, New York City.

James W. Pearsall,
James S. Coward,
John W. Crawford,
Edgar W. Rogers,
William Kennedy,
Carl S. Fowler,
William J. Stitt,
William Van Benschoten,
H. K. Carroll.

¶ 548. Corporate Names of Organizations, with Name of State under whose Laws each was Incorporated

The Chartered Fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania.*
Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Ohio.*
Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York.*
The Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Pennsylvania.*

Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Ohio.*
Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*New York.*
The Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois.*
Board of Conference Claimants of the Methodist Episcopal Church—*Illinois.*
The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Illinois.*
The Temperance Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Kansas.*

¶ 549. General Conference Commissions

§ 1. Commission on the Course of Study

Bishops E. H. Hughes and McConnell

Ministers: F. S. Townsend, L. F. W. Lesemann, H. F. Rall, F. W. Hannan; *ex officio* D. G. Downey, Book Editor.

§ 2. Commission on Finance

Bishops Berry, Burt, and Shepard.

Ministers: E. J. Lockwood, A. J. Coultas, Somerville Light, W. B. Winters, C. M. Boswell, U. G. Leazenby.
Laymen: F. C. Evans, J. M. Killits, H. S. Kennedy, Hanford Crawford, John Walton, Joseph R. Harker.

§ 3. Committee of Twenty-five on Unification

Bishops Cranston, J. W. Hamilton, McDowell, Lecte, and Cooke

Ministers: Edgar Blake, J. R. Day, D. G. Downey, J. F. Goucher, R. E. Jones, A. J. Nast, Frank Neff, E. M. Randall, C. B. Spencer, J. W. Van Cleve.
Laymen: George Warren Brown, C. W. Fairbanks, A. W. Harris, C. W. Kinne, I. G. Penn, I. E. Robinson, H. W. Rogers, William Rule, Alex. Simpson, Jr., R. V. Watt.

§ 4. Commission on Federation of Colored Churches

Bishops Henderson and Thirkield

Ministers: J. P. Wragg, R. E. Jones, R. E. Gillum.
Laymen: I. G. Penn, E. H. McKissack, L. J. Price.

§ 5. Commission on Faith and Order

Bishops Hamilton, Bashford, and Cooke

6. Commission of Eleven on Correlation

To be Appointed

For personnel and duties, see report Commission on Correlation No. 1.—*Journal*, 1916.

§ 7. Committee on Statistical Blanks

Edwin R. Graham, Jacob A. Cole, Fred W. Adams, O. S. Baketel, W. B. Hollingshead.

CHAPTER III

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

¶ 550. Location and Entertainment

Resolved, That the Book Committee and its Commission on Entertainment and the Secretary of the General Conference be directed to cooperate with each other in making such advance provisions for the General Conference of 1920 as will expedite its business; such provisions to be reported to and to be subject to change by the General Conference.—*Journal, 1916.*

¶ 551. Expenses of Adjourned Session

Resolved, That the Book Committee is hereby authorized and instructed to make an apportionment to the Church sufficient to meet the expense incident to the proposed adjourned meeting of this General Conference. Said apportionment to be made as soon as the certainty of such meeting is determined.—*Journal, 1916.*

¶ 552. Traveling Expenses of Delegates

Resolved, That the traveling expenses of each delegate to and from the seat of the General Conference shall be paid in the proportion that the number of days of his attendance is to the number of days of the session of the General Conference, the only exception being on account of personal sickness of the delegate, the exceptions to be determined by the Committee on Credentials.—*Journal, 1916.*

¶ 553. Memorials and Resolutions

Resolved, That memorials, resolutions, and requests to be submitted to Standing Committees, may be sent to the Secretary of this General Conference or his Assistant at any time in the month of April, 1920, and shall be arranged by him for immediate distribution to the several Standing Committees.—*Journal, 1916.*

¶ 554. Rules of Order of the General Conference

ORGANIZATION

RULE 1. When a General Conference shall have been convened in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, after the Devotional Services, the call of the roll shall be made by the Secretary of the preceding General Conference in the following manner:

(*a*) The names of the Bishops who have died during the quadrennium, and the names of every delegate-elect who may have died since election.

(*b*) The names of the General Superintendents followed by the names of the Missionary Bishops:

(*c*) The roll of members by Conferences. Whenever a Conference is called, the Chairman of the delegation shall report the name of any delegate that is absent. If no absentee is announced, the Secretary shall record all the delegates of that Conference as present. And, if a quorum is present, the Conference shall proceed to organization by the election of a Secretary, by ballot if there be more than one nomination, otherwise by acclamation; and by the election of such Assistant Secretaries, upon nomination of the Secretary, as it may deem necessary.

TIME OF MEETING, RECESS, AND ADJOURNMENT

RULE 2. *After the opening session*, the General Conference shall meet at 8:30 o'clock, A. M., and adjourn at 12:30 o'clock P. M.; but the General Conference, at its

discretion, may alter the time of meeting and may adjourn and fix the time to which it shall adjourn. A recess of ten minutes shall be taken at 10:30 o'clock, unless otherwise ordered.

THE PRESIDENT

RULE 3. *The President shall take the chair* precisely at the hour to which the General Conference stood adjourned, and cause the session to be opened by the reading of the Scriptures, singing, and prayer. On the appearance of a quorum he shall have the Journal of the preceding session read and approved, and see that the business of the Conference proceed regularly, according to the Rules of Order, and such other rules and regulations as may be adopted by the General Conference.

RULE 4. *The President shall decide all questions of order*, subject to an appeal to the General Conference. In case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate, except that the President may state the grounds of his decision, and the appellant may state the grounds of his appeal.

RULE 5. *The President shall appoint all committees*, unless otherwise especially ordered by the Conference.

RULE 6. *On Assigning the floor* to a member the President shall distinctly announce the name of the delegate and of the Annual Conference which he represents.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

RULE 7. *The regular order of business* shall be:

I. DEVOTIONAL SERVICES.

II. READING OF THE JOURNAL of the preceding session, and action thereon.

III. CALL OF CONFERENCES in alphabetical order for the presentation of appeals, resolutions, and miscellaneous business, *for immediate passage.*

(1) When a proposition has been presented under the Call of Conferences, and before the person who intro-

duced the proposition shall speak, the Question of Consideration may be raised by a member saying:

"*Mr. President, on that I raise the Question of Consideration.*"

The Question of Consideration shall then be put without debate, and if there is a two-thirds vote against consideration, the proposition shall not be entertained; but if consideration be not denied the person introducing the proposition may speak to it if it be seconded.

(2) After the person introducing the proposition has spoken, a motion to refer, if made, shall be decided without debate; or a motion to defer consideration and print in the Daily Advocate, if sustained by one hundred and fifty members, shall prevail without debate; in which case the proposition shall be given precedence under the next Call of Conferences; at which time also it shall be subject to the question of consideration or the motion of reference the same as when originally introduced; provided, however, that a proposition, which has been refused consideration shall not be printed in the Daily Advocate or the General Conference Journal.

IV. CALL OF STANDING COMMITTEES for Reports.

V. CALL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES for Reports.

VI. CALL OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

These Calls shall be made in the order herein given, and shall be severally completed before the introduction of other business, except by a formal suspension of the Rules. They shall be repeated, in the same order, until dispensed with by a formal vote.

RULE 8. *No member shall absent himself* from the sessions of the General Conference without leave, unless he be unable to attend.

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

RULE 9. *When a member is about to speak* in debate, or to deliver any matter to the General Conference, he shall rise and respectfully address the President, but

shall not proceed until recognized by him. The member must address the Chair from his place.

RULE 10. *No member shall be interrupted* when speaking, except by the President to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain when he thinks himself misrepresented.

RULE 11. *When a member desires to speak to a question of privilege* he shall briefly state the question; but it shall not be in order for him to proceed until the President shall have decided that it is a privileged question. Questions of privilege are limited to matters relating to the rights and welfare of the individual as a member or of the whole body; and must be of such an imperative character as to justify the interruption of the regular order.

It shall be the imperative duty of the President to require the member who desires to speak to a question of privilege to state his question of privilege. This having been done, the President shall decide whether it shall be allowed; and, if it be allowed, shall hold the member closely to the subject. See RULE 42.

RULE 12. *No person shall speak more than once* on the same question until every member who chooses to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than ten minutes at one time, without leave of the General Conference.

Provided, however, that a committee making a report through its chairman, or one of its members selected by the committee or by its chairman, shall be entitled to ten minutes to close the debate, either to oppose the motion to lay the report on the table, or, this permission not having been used, to close the debate on the motion to adopt. The committee shall not be deprived of its right to close the debate even after the previous question

has been ordered, and, when a report consisting of two or more propositions has a seriatim consideration, the chairman or representative of the committee shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges on each proposition, thus decided separately, as he would have had if the report had been considered as a unit. A similar privilege is granted to the chairman in charge of a minority report. See RULE 52 and RULE 53.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

RULE 13. *Resolutions shall be written and presented in duplicate* by the mover. A motion shall be reduced to writing if the President, Secretary, or a member request it. If the General Conference shall order a resolution to be referred to a committee, then the mover shall furnish to the Secretary a *third copy thereof* for the use of the committee.

RULE 14. *Reading.* All written motions, reports, and communications to the General Conference shall be passed to the Secretary, to be read by him to the General Conference.

RULE 15. *When a motion is made and seconded,* or a resolution introduced and seconded, or a report presented and read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference.

RULE 16. *The following motions shall be taken without debate:*

(1) To adjourn.
(2) To suspend the rules.
(3) To lay on the table.
(4) To take from the table.
(5) To raise the question of consideration.
(6) To call for the previous question.
(7) To reconsider a nondebatable motion.
(8) To refer, under Rule 7 (2).
(9) To defer and print, under Rule 7 (2).

RULE 17. *No new motion or resolution shall be entertained* until the one under consideration has been dis-

posed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection; but one or more of the following motions may be made, and they shall have *precedence in the order in which they are given,* namely:

(1) To fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn (may be amended, substituted, or laid on the table).
(2) To adjourn.
(3) To take a recess.
(4) To lay on the table.
(5) To order the previous question (cannot be laid on the table).
(6) To postpone to a given time.
(7) To refer.
(8) To substitute.
(9) To amend.
(10) To postpone indefinitely.

RULE 18. *Only one amendment to an amendment* shall be in order, but then it shall be in order to move a substitute for the main question, and one amendment to the substitute, and if the substitute is accepted, it shall replace the original proposition.

RULE 19. *It shall be in order to move the previous question*—that is, that the question be taken without further debate—on any measure pending, except in cases in which moral character is involved. If the call for the previous question be sustained by a vote of two thirds of the members present and voting, the main question shall be put; nevertheless, under this rule, after the previous question has been ordered, it shall be in order to divide, or to move to refer or to recommit or to lay on the table. It shall not be in order for a member to move the previous question or to move to lay on the table at the close of a speech in which he has discussed the pending question.

RULE 20. *When a vote is about to be taken* any member shall have the right to call for the division of a question, if it be divisible into distinct propositions.

RULE 21. *The motion to adjourn* shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, *except*

(1) When a member has the floor.

(2) When a question is actually put, or a vote is being taken, or until finally decided.

(3) When a question is pending on sustaining the demand for the previous question.

(4) When the previous question has been called and sustained, and action under it is pending.

(5) When a motion to adjourn has been negatived, and no business or debate has intervened.

(6) When a motion to fix the time to which the General Conference shall adjourn is pending.

RULE 22. *Reconsideration.* When any motion or resolution shall have been acted upon by the General Conference, it shall be in order for any member who voted with the prevailing side to move a reconsideration; provided, that a motion to reconsider a nondebatable motion shall be decided without debate.

RULE 23. *Changes of Discipline.* All resolutions proposing changes of the Discipline shall state the language of the paragraph, the line to be altered, and the language to be substituted; and no such proposed change shall be considered until it has been in the possession of the General Conference for one day and shall have been printed in the Daily Christian Advocate; but while it is under consideration amendments which are germane shall be in order.

RULE 24. *When any member shall move the reference* of any portion of the Journal of an Annual Conference to any committee he must at the same time furnish a copy of the portion he wishes to have referred, prepared as provided by Rule 32 in the case of memorials.

VOTING

RULE 25. *Every member* who is within the bar at the time a question is put shall vote, unless, for special reasons, excused by the General Conference. A member who

is not within the bar at the time when a question shall be put by the President shall not be allowed to vote except by leave of the General Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.

RULE 26. *Voting shall be by the uplifted hand*, but, on a division of the house, a count vote shall be taken, the members rising in their places and standing until they shall have been counted. Votes may also be taken by ballot and by AYES and NOES.

RULE 27. *Ayes and Noes.* It shall be in order for any member to call for the AYES and NOES on any question before the General Conference, and if the call be sustained by one hundred members present, the vote thereon shall be so taken. If the call be not sustained, members voting in the minority may have their votes recorded.

RULE 28. *Order of voting.* In voting when there is a substitute, and amendments have been proposed to the original resolution and an amendment to the substitute has been moved, the General Conference shall pursue the following order, namely: The main question shall first be perfected by voting on the amendments proposed thereto, and then the General Conference shall vote upon the amendment to the substitute, then upon the question of substitution, and finally upon the question of adoption.

RULE 29. *A call for a vote by orders* shall be made and seconded by members of the same order, and shall require the vote of one third of the members of that order present and voting.

RULE 30. *When voting by orders* the separation shall be merely in regard to the taking, announcing, deciding, and recording the vote of each order on the question on which the separate vote is demanded. Any incidental question bearing upon such vote shall be decided by the General Conference acting as one body. In taking a vote by orders it shall be by a count vote, first of the order calling for the separate vote and then of the other order. Either order may call for the AYES and NOES by

one fourth of its members, and if the call is sustained, the names of the members, first of the order calling for a separate vote, and then of the other order, shall be called, and each member shall answer AYE or NO.

MEMORIALS, RESOLUTIONS, AND PAPERS FOR UNANNOUNCED REFERENCE

RULE 31. *Memorials.* Three copies of memorials, resolutions, and miscellaneous papers presented for reference to a committee, and not for immediate consideration, shall be placed in the hands of the Secretary without announcement.

RULE 32. *Members presenting such memorials,* petitions, and other papers for reference shall prepare the papers by writing plainly on the back of them, after folding, the following items in the order herein given, namely:

(1) Name of member presenting paper.
(2) Conference to which he belongs.
(3) Conference, member, or church from which the paper comes.
(4) Subject to which it relates.
(5) First name on the petition.
(6) Number of other petitioners.
(7) Committee to which it is to be referred.

RULE 33. Memorials, resolutions, and other papers thus presented shall be *delivered directly to the Secretary* of the General Conference, in triplicate, and shall be sent by him to the appropriate committee (see Rule 40) and announced in the Journal of the day; provided, that in case of memorials and documents of unusual length, which are not intended for publication, one complete original copy shall be required, and two copies of the indorsement thereon as required by this paragraph.

RULE 34. *Memorials, petitions,* etc., for reference to committees may be mailed to the Secretary of the General Conference at any time within four months previous to the session of the General Conference, for early

classification and reference to the several Standing Committees.

RULE 35. *There shall be sixteen Standing Committees as follows:*

COMMITTEES

I. Episcopacy.
II. Judiciary.
III. Itinerancy.
IV. Boundaries.
V. Revision.
VI. Temporal Economy.
VII. State of the Church.
VIII. Book Concern.
IX. Foreign Missions.
X. Home Missions and Church Extension.
XI. Education.
XII. Freedmen.
XIII. Sunday Schools.
XIV. Epworth League.
XV. Deaconess Work.
XVI. Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals.

RULE 36. *For the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Revision* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one member, and the Bishops shall nominate four, making the total number nineteen. These Committees shall meet at such times as they may elect, or as may be ordered by the General Conference.

RULE 37. *For the Committee on Deaconess Work* the delegates of each General Conference District shall nominate from their number one layman and one minister, and the Board of Bishops shall nominate nine, making a total of thirty-nine. The committee shall meet as it may elect.

RULE 38. *The other Standing Committees* shall be divided into three groups, designated as GROUP A, meeting at 3 P. M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday;

GROUP B, meeting at 3 P. M. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; and GROUP C, meeting only twice a week, as follows:

GROUP A.—*Monday, Wednesday, Friday.*
Episcopacy.
Itinerancy.
Boundaries.
Temporal Economy.
State of the Church.

GROUP B.—*Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.*
Book Concern.
Foreign Missions.
Home Missions.
Education.
Freedmen.

GROUP C.—*Monday* and *Wednesday.*
Epworth League.
Tuesday and Thursday.
Sunday Schools.
Friday and Saturday.
Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals.

RULE 39. *Assignment to Standing Committees.* As soon as practicable after the election of delegates the Secretary of each Annual Conference shall call together the ministerial and lay delegates for organization. They shall elect one of their number as chairman, and shall assign one minister and one layman to membership in each standing committee, except the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work; provided, that each Conference shall have at least one representative on each committee. The chairman of the delegation shall immediately forward to the Secretary of the General Conference the names of the delegates from his Conference, arranged alphabetically, indicating the order to which each belongs, and the standing committees in Group A, Group B, or Group C, to which each is assigned; and from these returns the Secretary of the General Conference shall construct as far as

possible, the roll of standing committees in advance of the opening of the General Conference.

RULE 40. *Reference of memorials, petitions, appeals, and other documents* properly referable to committees of the General Conference.

§ 1. On the first day of the session there shall be appointed, on nomination of the Bishops, a committee of five to which shall be submitted the secretary's record with the stenographic report of the proceedings. The said committee shall carefully examine the records and report to the General Conference in either of the following forms:

(1) "We have examined the Minutes and found them correct"; or,

(2) "We have examined the Minutes and found them correct except in the following particular or particulars."

Following the adoption of the report of the committee, and whenever necessary, the correction of the Journal, the question shall be submitted:

"Shall the Journal be approved?"

Any error subsequently discovered shall be reported to the committee and upon its recommendation may be corrected by the General Conference.

§ 2. There shall be a *Committee of Reference* composed of the Secretary of the General Conference and two ministerial and two lay delegates who shall be appointed by the Secretary of the General Conference, of which committee the Secretary of the General Conference shall be Secretary.

(1) *The Committee of Reference*, as soon as appointed, shall meet and organize by electing a chairman from its number. The General Conference Secretary may also appoint an Assistant Secretary to cooperate with him in keeping the records of this committee, which records shall be made a part of the Journal of the General Conference. To this committee shall be referred all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other docu-

ments presented to and requiring action of the General Conference.

(2) *The Committee of Reference* shall as expeditiously as possible refer all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other documents properly referable to the committees provided by the Rules of Order and to such other committees as are or may be provided by the Rules of Order or especially created by the Conference. Reference of all petitions, memorials, appeals, and other documents to the said several committees shall be made as indicated generally by the title of the committees, and hereafter particularly specified.

(3) *The Committee of Reference* shall number consecutively its references to the several committees and shall publish the number, title, and committee reference of all documents referred during the preceding day in The Daily Christian Advocate.

§ 3. The following special references shall be made:

(1) *To the Committee on Episcopacy*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the General and Missionary Superintendency.

(2) *To the Committee on Judiciary*, all appeals coming to the General Conference under the provisions of the Discipline, rulings of the Bishops and other questions referred to it by the General Conference.

(3) *To the Committee on Itinerancy*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Pastorate, District Superintendency, Conference Claimants, and the Local Ministry, and also Annual Conference Journals.

(4) *To the Committee on Boundaries*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Boundaries of Conferences and General Conference districts.

(5) *To the Committee on Revision*, shall be sent all committee reports, for final editing and verbal revision prior to being printed in The Daily Christian Advocate or to action by the General Conference, except the reports of the Committees on Judiciary and Boundaries. To the Committee on Revision the General Conference also may

refer any resolution or report for more careful and exact statement.

(6) *To the Committee on Temporal Economy*, all memorials, petitions, and documents relating to the organization, business, and administration of the Quarterly, District, Annual, and General Conferences, and also matters relating to Lay Conference, Ratio of Representation, and all matters relating to Church membership, property, finance, and other temporal matters, including statistical reports.

(7) *To the Committee on State of the Church*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to social service, labor, Sabbath observance, divorce, amusements, and the social and spiritual welfare of the Church not clearly belonging to other committees.

(8) *To the Committee on Book Concern*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Book Concern, the Book Committee, publications and publishing interests.

(9) *To the Committee on Foreign Missions*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Foreign Missions, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and all other matters relating to Foreign Missionary Work.

(10) *To the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, Woman's Home Missionary Society, City Evangelization, the Rural Church, and all other matters relating to Home Missionary work.

(11) *To the Committee on Education*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to our Board of Education, our higher institutions of learning, Courses of Study, and all other questions affecting the educational interests of the Church.

(12) *To the Committee on Freedmen*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Freedmen's

Aid Society and all other matters affecting the educational interests of the colored people.

(13) *To the Committee on Sunday Schools*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Board of Sunday Schools, Methodist Brotherhood, Sunday School literature, and all other matters affecting our Sunday School work.

(14) *To the Committee on Epworth League*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to our Young People's work, the literature of the Epworth League, and other matters affecting the interests of the League.

(15) *To the Committee on Deaconess Work*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to the Deaconess Board and work.

(16) *To the Committee on Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals*, all memorials, petitions, and other documents relating to Temperance, Prohibition, Habit-forming Drugs, the Social Evil, and other questions on the attitude of the Church toward public morals.

§ 4. *The Committee of Reference* shall also refer all memorials, petitions, and other documents not specifically assigned by this rule to such committees as in its discretion the same shall seem to belong, having due regard to the subject matter thereof.

§ 5. *The Committee of Reference* shall have power to withdraw a reference, either upon request or upon its own motion, and to refer the same to another committee; the said committee shall also have power to withhold from reference and publication any document which it shall deem personal, or which is not properly referable to any existing committee, or it may recommend to the General Conference the appointment of a special committee to consider such document. The General Conference may, on motion, require any document withheld from reference to be properly referred.

RULE 41. *The General Conference shall elect* the fol-

lowing special committees to consist of one member from each General Conference District, to be nominated by the Bishops at the morning session of the third day:

American Bible Society.

Federation.

Also special committees on Credentials and on Fraternal Delegates, to be nominated by the Bishops at the opening session; and such other committees as the General Conference from time to time shall determine.

RULE 42. *On the first day of the session there shall be appointed*, on nomination of the Bishops, a committee of nine on Questions of Privilege. To this committee any member of the body shall submit what he considers a question of privilege relative to the business of the General Conference. Said committee shall determine whether the matter so submitted is or is not a question of privilege. All matters approved by the committee as matters of privilege shall be reported to the Presiding Officer and acted upon each day immediately after the approval of the Journal. The appointment of such a committee, however, shall not be construed as abridging in any measure the right of any member to bring forward at any time, from his place on the floor, such matters of urgency as involve the rights or welfare of the individual member or of the house. (See RULE 11.)

RULE 43. *A business quorum of a Standing Committee* shall be thirty-five, except that for the Committees on Judiciary, on Revision, and on Deaconess Work, a majority of all the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

RULE 44. *Committees shall not originate business*, but shall consider all subjects referred to them by the General Conference.

RULE 45. *A Committee shall not consider* a matter which the General Conference has refused to refer to it.

RULE 46. *When a matter has been received* by the General Conference, and referred to a committee, and a

report thereon has been made, it shall not be in order for another committee to consider the same subject, or for the General Conference to entertain a report from another committee on the same subject; but should a committee ascertain that a subject which has been referred to it has been referred also to another committee, it shall report the fact to the Secretary of the General Conference, who shall reassign the paper to the proper committee unless he be in doubt, in which case he shall report the matter to the General Conference for its decision.

RULE 47. *Whenever in any committee* any change in the Discipline is adopted which will affect the work of any of the Boards of the Church, whose work is under consideration by one of the Standing Committees, a Committee of Conference, which shall be composed of three members from each Standing Committee involved, shall be appointed by the chairman of each committee; which Committee of Conference shall consider said proposed legislation and report back to their respective Committees before any report on the proposed legislation is made to the General Conference.

RULE 48. *There shall not be reported* as coming from a committee any matter which has not been considered and acted upon by the committee duly assembled.

RULE 49. *Committee reports which propose changes* of the Discipline shall recite not only the paragraph and line to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

REPORTS

RULE 50. *Committees shall furnish to the Committee on Revision duplicate copies* of their reports, one copy for the Secretary of the General Conference and one for the *Daily Christian Advocate.*

RULE 51. *Reports of Standing Committees* signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and minority reports signed by at least ten members, shall be considered to be in possession of the Conference when they shall have been

printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate.* But in a minority report from the Committee on Judiciary one signature shall be sufficient. Such reports shall be presented to the Conference upon paper bearing at the top the number of the report, the name of the committee, the total membership of the committee, the number present at the time the report was adopted, the number voting for the report, and the number voting against the report.

RULE 52. *When the chairman of a committee is not in harmony with a report* ordered by the committee, it shall be his duty to state the fact to the committee, and the committee shall elect one of its members to represent it in the presentation and discussion of the report in the General Conference; but, if in such a case the committee fail to select such a representative, the chairman shall designate a member to represent the action of the committee, and said representative shall have all the rights and privileges of the chairman in relation to such report.

RULE 53. *The person designated to present the minority report* shall have all the privileges in reference to the minority report that are given in Rule 12 to the chairman presenting a majority report; except that the chairman presenting the majority report shall have the right of closing the debate on the question of substituting the minority report for the majority report.

MISCELLANEOUS

RULE 54. *Demonstrations* of approval or disapproval during the progress of debate shall be deemed a breach of order.

RULE 55. *No persons except members, ushers, and pages shall stand* in the open spaces in the room.

RULE 56. *The ushers* shall keep the aisles clear for their proper use, and none but delegates shall be admitted within the inclosure reserved for the delegates.

RULE 57. *In all matters not specified* herein the proceedings of the General Conference shall be governed by Common Parliamentary Law.

RULE 58. *These rules may be suspended* at any time by a vote of three fourths of the members present and voting.

¶ 555. General Conference Districts

Missions [in brackets] are included in Districts as constituted. The figures following the names of Conferences and Districts indicate the number of delegates to which they were entitled respectively at the close of the General Conference of 1916.

I. East Maine, 4; Eastern Swedish, 2; Maine, 4; New Hampshire, 6; New England, 12; New England Southern, 8; Troy, 12; Vermont, 4. Total, 52.

II. Denmark, 2; Finland, 2; Italy, 2; New Jersey, 10; New York, 12; New York East, 12; Newark, 12; Norway, 2; Sweden, 6. Total, 60. [France Mission Conference, Russia Mission, North Africa Mission Conference.]

III. Central New York, 10; Erie, 10; Genesee, 12; Northern New York, 8; Wyoming, 10. Total, 50. [Italian Mission.]

IV. Baltimore, 12; Central Pennsylvania, 12; Philadelphia, 14; Pittsburgh, 12; West Virginia, 12; Wilmington, 8. Total, 70. [Porto Rico Mission Conference.]

V. Kentucky, 4; North-East Ohio, 22; Ohio, 12; West Ohio, 20. Total, 58.

VI. Alabama, 2; Blue Ridge-Atlantic, 2; Central Tennessee, 2; Delaware, 6; East Tennessee, 2; Georgia, 2; Gulf, 2; Holston, 6; Liberia, 2; North Carolina, 4; Saint Johns River, 2; South Carolina, 8; Washington, 8. Total, 48. [Inhambane, Rhodesia, West Central Africa Mission Conferences, Congo Mission.]

VII. Atlanta, 4; Central Alabama, 4; Central Missouri, 2; Florida, 4; Lexington, 4; Lincoln, 2; Little Rock, 4; Louisiana, 8; Mississippi, 6; Savannah, 2; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 6; Upper Mississippi, 6; West Texas, 4. Total, 60. [South Florida Mission.]

VIII. Arkansas, 2; Kansas, 18; Missouri, 6; Northwest Kansas, 6; Oklahoma, 10; Saint Louis, 8; South-

west Kansas, 10; Western Swedish, 2. Total, 62. [Southern Swedish Mission Conference.]

IX. Des Moines, 12; Iowa, 8; Nebraska, 18; Northwest Iowa, 10; Northwest Nebraska, 2; Upper Iowa, 10. Total, 60.

X. Central Illinois, 10; Central Swedish, 2; Illinois, 16; Norwegian and Danish, 2; Rock River, 16; Southern Illinois, 10. Total, 56.

XI. Detroit, 16; Indiana, 14; Michigan, 16; North Indiana, 14; Northwest Indiana, 8. Total, 68.

XII. Dakota, 6; Minnesota, 8; North Dakota, 6; Northern Minnesota, 8; Northern Swedish, 2; West Wisconsin, 8; Wisconsin, 8. Total, 46.

XIII. California German, 2; Central German, 4; Chicago German, 4; East German, 2; North Germany, 4; Northern German, 2; Northwest German, 2; Pacific German, 2; Saint Louis German, 4; South Germany, 4; Southern German, 2; Switzerland, 2; West German, 4. Total, 38. [Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria.]

XIV. California, 12; Central China, 2; Chile, 2; Colorado, 8; Eastern South America, 2; Foochow, 4; Hinghwa, 2; Korea, 4; Mexico, 2; New Mexico, 2; North China, 4; Southern California, 14; West China, 2; Wyoming State, 2. Total, 62. [Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, Pacific, Chinese Pacific, Japanese, and Utah Missions, Pacific Swedish Mission Conference, Kiangsi, Bolivia, North Andes Mission Conferences, Panama Mission.]

XV. Bengal, 2; Bombay, 2; Central Provinces, 2; Columbia River, 8; Idaho, 4; Malaysia, 2; Montana, 2; North India, 4; North Montana, 2; Northwest India, 4; Oregon, 8; Philippine Islands, 2; Puget Sound, 8; South India, 2; Western Norwegian-Danish, 2. Total, 54. [Alaska Mission, Burma Mission Conference.]

CHAPTER IV

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPORTS

¶ 556. Examination of Annual Conference Journals

The examination of Annual Conference Journals by the General Conference shall be upon the following points:

§ 1. The Journal shall be a copy of the record of the regular proceedings of the Conference, arranged according to the Standard Table of Contents as follows:

I. Conference Chronological Roll.
II. Officers of the Conference.
III. Officers of Conference Societies.
IV. Conference Committees.
  (*a*) Standing Committees.
  (*b*) Special Committees.
  (*c*) Assignments for next session.
V. Disciplinary Questions.
VI. Appointments.
VII. Daily Proceedings.
VIII. Reports.
  (*a*) District Superintendents.
  (*b*) Standing Committees and Boards.
  (*c*) Special Committees.
  (*d*) Treasurers.
  (*e*) Miscellaneous.
IX. Plan of Conference Examinations.
X. Memoirs.
XI. Roll of The Dead.
  (*a*) Members of Conference.
  (*b*) Widows of Deceased Members.
XII. Conference Sessions.
XIII. Miscellaneous.
XIV. Historical.
XV. Statistical Tables.

§ 2. The Journal shall have a title page and shall be signed by the President and Secretary of each Session.

§ 3. The Journal must be either in manuscript or printed and substantially bound; if the latter, in quadrennial volumes, and so paged consecutively.

§ 4. If printed and bound, there should be the Secretary's Certificate that the volume is a complete and correct record of the proceedings, and that it was adopted by the Conference as its Official Record.

§ 5. There shall be proper headings of pages, marginal or subheads, and clearness and accuracy of statement of the business transacted.

§ 6. Chirography, orthography, and the neat, business-like appearance of the page should be noted; also erasures, interlineations, and pastings.

§ 7. Separate items of business shall be placed in separate paragraphs.

§ 8. The Journal shall state where the sessions were held, the names of makers of motions, and the findings of committees of trials. The Disciplinary Questions shall be properly noted, together with their answers; also the action on each motion, and the decisions of the Bishop on questions of law.

§ 9. Any action adverse to the polity, the unity, or the purity of the Church should be carefully noted.

§ 10. The Annual Conference Secretaries shall prepare their Conference Records in view of examination at the General Conference.

§ 11. The Committee on Itinerancy, after examination of the Journals, shall return them to the respective delegations.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 557. Report on Conference Journals

Your Committee on Itinerancy, to which was assigned the duty of examining the Journals of the Annual and Mission Conferences, and Missions, reports as follows:

§ 1. The Conferences whose records are found to be

correct, complying with all the requirements of the Discipline, are: Atlanta, Bengal, Bombay, California, California German, Central Alabama, Central German, Central New York, Central Pennsylvania, Chicago German, Colorado, Dakota, Delaware, Denmark, Des Moines, Detroit, East German, East Maine, Eastern South America, Erie, Finland, Foochow, Genesee, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Newark, New England, New England Southern, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, New York East, North China, North Montana, North-East Ohio, Northern German, Northern New York, Northern Swedish, Northwest German, Northwest Kansas, Norway, Norwegian and Danish, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pacific German, Philippine Islands, Pittsburgh, Puget Sound, Saint Louis, Saint Louis German, South Germany, South India, Southern California, Southern German, Southern Illinois, Southwest Kansas, Sweden, Texas, Troy, Upper Iowa, Upper Mississippi, Vermont, West China, West German, West Ohio, West Virginia, West Wisconsin, Western Swedish, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Wyoming State.

§ 2. The following Conference Journals were found to be defective in the requirements of the Discipline (¶ 539, ed. 1912) on the points as specified by the numbers: Alabama, 8; Arkansas, 2, 8; Baltimore, 8; Blue Ridge-Atlantic, 8, 9; Central China, 3, 5; Central Illinois, 8, 9; Central Missouri, 3, 8; Central Provinces, 8; Central Swedish, 8; Central Tennessee, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12; Chile, 8; Columbia River, 8, 10; East Tennessee, 2, 3, 9; Eastern Swedish, 2; Georgia, 2, 9; Gulf, 10; Hinghwa, 2; Holston, 12; Iowa, 8; Lexington, 12; Little Rock, 2, 8, 9, 12; Louisiana, 9; Maine, 8; Mississippi, 2, 6, 8, 12; Montana, 8, 12; Missouri, 6; New Mexico, 8, 12; North Carolina, 8; North Dakota, 8, 10; North Indiana, 10; Northern Minnesota, 8; Northwest Indiana, 8, 9; Northwest Iowa, 2, 10; Northwest Nebraska, 8, 9; Philadelphia, 8, 12; Rock River, 2, 8; Saint Johns River,

8, 9; South Carolina, 3, 9; Switzerland, 2, 8; Tennessee, 2, 3, 11; Washington, 2; West Texas, 9, 12; Western Norwegian-Danish, 8; Wilmington, 8, 12.

§ 3. The Journals of the following Conferences were not presented: Florida, Italy (war), Liberia, Lincoln, North Germany (war), North India (war), Northwest India (war), Savannah.

§ 4. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are correct: Congo, Central Conference of Southern Asia, Kiangsi, Pacific Japanese, Pacific Swedish, Portuguese East Africa, Rhodesia, South Florida, West Central Africa.

§ 5. The Journals of the following Mission Conferences and Missions are defective: Arizona, 12; North Africa, 6, 8, 9; Porto Rico, 3, 8; Southern Swedish, 8; Utah, 2, 8.

§ 6. The Journals of the following Missions, etc., did not appear: Alaska, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Burma, France, Hawaii, Italian, Nevada, North Andes, Pacific Chinese, Russia, some, doubtless, on account of war.

¶ 558. Report of the General Conference Treasurer

OSCAR P. MILLER, TREASURER, ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA

In account with

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXPENSE FUND,

1916 QUADRENNIUM

RECEIPTS

To amount transferred from 1912 Account		$38,828 01
To unpaid claims 1912 quadrennium		596 49
To collections from Conferences		
Fall Domestic Conferences	$95,454 19	
Spring Domestic Conferences	63,406 98	
Foreign Conferences	2,887 93	
		161,749 10
To interest collected		10,915 14
To refunds from delegates		8 00
To Subscription to The Daily Christian Advocate		9,689 29
To advertising in Daily Christian Advocate		807 00
To error in check No. 2082		43 50
Total receipts		$222,636 53

DISBURSEMENTS

By paid for The Daily Christian Advocate	$16,794 02
By paid General Conference Commissions (Exhibit C)	7,038 13
By paid Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America	8,000 00
By paid Expenses of Washington Office of Federal Council	2,500 00
By paid Fraternal Delegates	1,430 62
By paid expenses of Secretary of the General Conference	1,052 36
By paid expense of Treasurer's Office	11,600 00
By paid for postage, stationery, etc., for treasurer	414 63
By paid premium on treasurer's bond	250 00
By paid stenographers on Journal	158 00
By paid Transportation Bureau	501 36
By paid expenses of General Conference Delegates (Exhibit D)	125,581 02
By paid Miscellaneous Expenses at General Conference (Exhibit E)	2,604 27
By amount transferred to 1920 account	2,000 00
By balance on hand July 10, 1916	42,711 67
	$222,636 53

Respectfully submitted,
OSCAR P. MILLER, Treasurer,
General Conference Commission.

EXHIBIT C

General Conference Commissions

By paid expenses of Judicial Conference	$250 65
By paid expenses of General Conference Commission	1,750 37
By paid expenses of Ecumenical Conference	650 00
By paid expenses of Commission on Federation	2,001 63
By paid expenses of Commission on Priority	389 58
By paid expenses of Commission on Evangelism	1,006 49
By paid expenses of Commission on Faith and Order	65 07
By paid expenses of Commission on Federation of Colored Churches	461 27
By paid 1,500 copies of Report, Commission on Finance	59 59
By paid expenses Commission on Revision of Ritual	403 48
Total amount paid Commissions	$7,038 13

EXHIBIT D

Expenses of General Conference Delegates

Expenses of 768 American Delegates	$88,681 32
Expenses of 56 Foreign Delegates[1]	33,050 00
Expenses of 7 Missionary Bishops	3,849 70
Total	$125,581 02

[1]E. W. Fritchley of Bombay donated his expenses.

EXHIBIT E

Miscellaneous Expenses at General Conference

By paid expenses of Treasurer's Office, Assistants, etc.			$406 34
Music.	1,500 copies of Hymns	$284 89	
	Pianist	100 30	
	Precentor	111 88	
	Edna White Trumpet Quartet	75 00	
			572 07
Job work done at Conference			385 20
Supplies			7 65
Lunches for tellers			25 35
Stenographers for memorials and reports, etc.			112 00
Western Union Telegraph and Messenger			28 72
Publicity			221 25
Press Committee			415 14
5,000 Delegates' Workfellows			431 00
Total			$2,604 72

RECAPITULATION

Total collections from all sources 1916 Quadrennium		$183,168 53
Total disbursements to date	$177,924 86	
Estimated unpaid expenses	5,518 30	183,443 16
Deficiency		$274 63

For detailed report of collections by Districts and Conferences, see report in the General Conference Journal.

¶ 559. Contiguous and Continuous Episcopal Supervision

§ 1. We recommend that in the intervals of the Annual Conference sessions each resident Bishop shall be held responsible for the administration of the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church in those Conferences adjacent to his residence, the decision as to which Conferences are adjacent to a particular residence being left to the Board of Bishops. To make this provision effective, we recommend that one month after the adjournment of an Annual Conference the presidency of the Conference shall pass to the Bishop resident in the group of which it forms a part, and shall remain so until one month before the next ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 2. In order to secure detailed and comprehensive

knowledge of the activities, achievements, and needs of the entire Connection, each Bishop is requested to make quadrennially a written report of his administration of the group over which he exercises residential supervision, these reports to be presented to the General Conference and printed in the General Conference Handbook and Journal.

§ 3. [For the purpose of securing more economical and efficient presidential administration the Bishops are requested to arrange the Conferences in America in three Divisions and to assign each Bishop for presidential administration to the Annual Conferences of the Division within which he has his official residence.—*Journal*, 1912.]

§ 4. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of a Bishop in the interval between the General Conferences, the Board of Bishops are requested to rearrange the areas temporarily, having regard so far as possible to the principle of contiguity recommended in § 1.

¶ 560. Plan of Residential Episcopal Supervision by Groups

The arrangement of the Annual Conferences for Residential Supervision, made by the Board of Bishops is as follows:

Atlanta: Bishop Leete—Georgia, Alabama, Saint Johns River, Atlanta, Florida, Savannah, South Carolina, South Florida Mission. Membership, 114,423.

Boston: Bishop E. H. Hughes—New England, New England Southern, East Maine, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont. Membership, 121,975.

Buffalo: Bishop Burt—Genesee, Central New York, Northern New York, Troy. Membership, 186,526.

Chattanooga: Bishop Bristol—Holston, Central Tennessee, Blue Ridge-Atlantic, Tennessee, East Tennessee, North Carolina. Membership, 92,880.

Chicago: BISHOP NICHOLSON—Rock River, Central Illinois, Illinois, Northwest Indiana, North Indiana, Chicago German, Central Swedish. Membership, 322,592.

Cincinnati: BISHOP ANDERSON—West Ohio, Ohio, North-East Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Lexington. Membership, 516,047.

Denver: BISHOP MCCONNELL—Colorado, Wyoming State, New Mexico, Western Swedish, Lincoln, Utah Mission. Membership, 48,723.

Detroit: BISHOP HENDERSON—Detroit, Michigan, Central German, Norwegian and Danish, Northern Swedish. Membership, 146,022.

Helena: BISHOP COOKE—Montana, North Montana, North Dakota, Idaho. Membership, 19,761.

New Orleans: BISHOP THIRKIELD—Gulf, Louisiana, Mississippi, Upper Mississippi, Central Alabama, Texas, Southern German. Membership, 109,018.

New York: BISHOP WILSON—New York, New York East, Newark, East German, Eastern Swedish. Membership, 207,598.

Omaha: BISHOP STUNTZ—Nebraska, Northwest Nebraska, Des Moines, Northwest Iowa, Upper Iowa, Iowa, Northwest German. Membership, 243,886.

Philadelphia: BISHOP BERRY—Philadelphia, New Jersey, Wyoming, Delaware, Porto Rico Mission Conference. Membership, 278,992.

Pittsburgh: BISHOP HAMILTON—Pittsburgh, Erie, West Virginia, Italian Mission. Membership, 248,955.

Portland: BISHOP M. S. HUGHES—Oregon, Puget Sound, Columbia River, Pacific German, Western Norwegian-Danish, Alaska Mission, Pacific Swedish Mission Conference in part. Membership, 66,895.

Saint Louis: BISHOP QUAYLE—Saint Louis, Missouri, Southern Illinois, Arkansas, Saint Louis German, Central Missouri, Little Rock. Membership, 158,265.

Saint Paul: BISHOP MITCHELL—Minnesota, Northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, Dakota, West Wisconsin, Northern German. Membership, 119,325.

San Francisco: Bishop Leonard—California, Southern California, California German, Arizona Mission, Hawaii Mission, Nevada Mission, Pacific Japanese Mission, Pacific Chinese Mission, Pacific Swedish Mission Conference in part. Membership, 84,043.

Washington: Bishop McDowell—Baltimore, Washington, Central Pennsylvania, Wilmington. Membership, 241,046.

Wichita: Bishop Shepard—Kansas, Southwest Kansas, Northwest Kansas, Oklahoma, West German, West Texas, Southern Swedish Mission Conference. Membership, 198,467.

CHAPTER V

GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS

¶ 561. Constitutional Vote

"The two-thirds vote" of a General Conference required under ¶ 47 of the Discipline means two thirds of the quorum present and voting and not two thirds of the entire membership of the body.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary No. 20.*

¶ 562. Testimony

§ 1. Questions relating to the admissibility of evidence are Questions of Law.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 127.

§ 2. Documentary Evidence need not be spread on the Journal, but should be filed and preserved by the Secretary.—*Journal*, 1848, p. 129.

¶ 563. Irregular Proceedings

§ 1. When an Annual Conference decides that a Preacher in Charge has received or expelled a member contrary to the Discipline the decision does not exclude

the member so received, but restores the member so expelled.—*Journal*, 1852, p. 73, and *Journal*, 1860, p. 297.

§ 2. When the Annual Conference decides that a member of the Church has been expelled contrary to the Discipline, such act of the Conference does not restore him to good standing in the Church, but simply restores him to membership in the Church; and when so restored he is placed in the position he occupied before he was tried—that is, he is an accused member; and hence the Preacher is not at liberty to give him a Certificate of Membership.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 3. Irregularity in the reception of a member is not a bar to trial.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 4. If an expelled member shall gain membership elsewhere without confession, contrition, and satisfactory reformation, his membership is null and void, and any Certificate of such membership should not be received.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 378.

¶ 564. Appeals

§ 1. When an expelled member has by neglect or otherwise forfeited his right to Appeal, a subsequent Quarterly Conference may not hear his Appeal.—*Journal*, 1860, p. 298.

§ 2. If a Member of an Annual Conference should die pending his Appeal to a Judicial Conference, his death shall not affect the Appeal, which may still be prosecuted by his heirs or legal representatives.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 375.

¶ 565. Members of Annual Conferences

§ 1. Every effective Preacher is entitled to an appointment within the Conference of which he is a member. His transfer to another Conference carries with it this right, and therefore should not be made without at the same time making adequate provision in a regular manner

for his protection. Nevertheless, if a Preacher requests such a transfer to a Conference not to meet for some time after his transfer, he cannot complain if he does not receive work till the next ensuing session of the Conference after such transfer.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

§ 2. An action of the General Conference changing the boundaries of an Annual Conference does not of itself affect the Membership of Supernumerary and Retired Ministers, their Membership remaining as before such action until adjusted by mutual agreement of the Conferences affected by such change of boundaries.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 374.

§ 3. No member of an Annual Conference may vote in the election of Delegates to the General Conference, nor upon proposed amendments to the Constitution who is not present at the time and place the vote is taken.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 566. Orders

§ 1. The question of electing to Orders a Preacher who has not passed an examination on the Course of Study prescribed for Preachers applying for Orders may not be submitted to a vote of the Conference. A Bishop may not submit to the vote of an Annual Conference the question of obedience to a law of the Church.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The Orders of a Roman Catholic Priest may not be recognized by an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 373.

¶ 567. Licensing and Ordaining Women

§ 1. The Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church does not provide for, nor contemplate the licensing of women as Local Preachers; and therefore the action of a Quarterly Conference, and of a District Superintendent as the President thereof, in granting such license is without the authority of law, is not in accordance with the

Discipline as it is, and with the uniform administration under it.—*Journal*, 1880, pp. 353, 354.

§ 2. The law of the Church does not authorize the ordination of women to the Ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and a Bishop is not at liberty to submit to the vote of the Conference the question of electing women to Orders.—*Journal*, 1880, p. 353.

§ 3. The General Conference judges it inexpedient to take any action on the subject of licensing women to exhort or to preach; and that it is also inexpedient to take any action on the subject of ordaining women to the Ministry.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 317.

¶ 568. Quarterly Conferences

§ 1. The Quarterly Conference may remove Trustees at any time for cause, where the statutes of the State do not prevent.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

§ 2. Supernumerary and Retired Ministers residing out of the bounds of their Annual Conference are members of the Quarterly Conferences where they reside, and are entitled to vote therein.—*Journal*, 1892, p. 490.

¶ 569. Annual Conferences Continuous

§ 1. Individual members come in and go out, but the Conference itself continues. It may adopt rules for its government and Rules of Order for its Annual Sessions, the same to continue at its pleasure and to be amended or repealed as it may provide. In short, it is a permanent body.—*Journal*, 1904.

§ 2. The status of an Annual Conference is not affected by the fact that its membership falls below the number required by the Constitution for the organization of an Annual Conference.—*Journal*, 1904.

¶ 570. Legal Notice Concerning Change of Boundaries

A Legal Notice must specifically indicate (*a*) the source from which it come, whether from an Annual

Conference, Mission Conference, or from a majority of the District Superintendents or Mission Superintendents, as the case might be; (*b*) the purpose of the Conference, Mission Conference, Mission, or District Superintendents by whom the notice is issued, which requests a change of boundaries; (*c*) the character in general, of the change in boundaries sought to be effected.

The notice must be served in writing, and delivered to the Secretary of each and every Conference which is to be affected by the proposed change.—*Journal*, 1916. Revision No. 2.

¶ 571. Consolidation of Churches

§ 1. The Bishops have full power under the law and usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church to consolidate Churches and appoint one Pastor for the united Congregation.

In so doing they exercise an authority which from the beginning of our distinct Church life has been held to be resident in the Bishop presiding in an Annual Conference by virtue of his power to "fix the appointments of the Preachers."—*Journal*, 1900, p. 422.

2. § When two charges, supplied for the time being by the same preacher, retain their separate organizations, each charge is entitled to elect its own delegate to the Lay Electoral Conference.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 572. Negotiations Between Preachers and People

Direct negotiations between Pastors and Churches in advance of the making of the appointments by the Bishops are contrary to the spirit of our itinerant ministry and subversive of our ecclesiastical polity, and as such should be discouraged by our Bishops, Pastors, and people.—*Journals*, 1884 and 1912.

¶ 573. Union with Other Churches

Whenever any Synod, Conference, Church Society, or other body of Christians, agreeing in doctrine with the Methodist Episcopal Church, shall desire to become a component part of said Church, the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church most nearly, or conveniently related, territorially, to such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body, shall have power, with the consent of the Bishop presiding, on being satisfied with the agreement of such Synod, Conference, Church Society, or body of Christians with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Doctrine and Discipline, to receive such organization in a body into our communion. Ministers so received shall hold such relations and enjoy such privileges as they would hold or enjoy if admitted individually on their credentials. Members so received shall sustain the same relation to the local Church as they would sustain if received individually by certificates. Before such reception, however, a properly authenticated register of such ministers and members shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Conference considering such reception. In all cases of the reception of Churches, satisfactory assurance shall be given to the Conference that the property shall be placed in the custody of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that the Churches will receive pastors appointed by the authority of the General Conference of the Church.—*Journal*, 1896, p. 308.

¶ 574. Pro Rata Distribution of Ministerial Support

The law of the Church in regard to the *pro rata* division of the amounts raised for ministerial support is binding, and it is incumbent on the Pastors and District Superintendents to see that such *pro rata* division be made.—*Journal*, 1912.

¶ 575 Complaints and Charges

§ 1. The question, "Are there any Complaints?" does not refer to Members of Annual Conferences, but refers (1) to charges of crime brought against Preachers on Trial in the Annual Conference; (2) to complaints made against the moral or official conduct of Local Preachers; and (3) to complaints made against the official conduct of members of the Quarterly Conference other than those named above.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 376.

§ 2. The dismissal of a preliminary complaint is not a bar to a new complaint.—*Journal*, 1884, p. 372.

§ 3. An Annual Conference has the right to refuse to entertain charges preferred against a member, and that one so accused does not have to be tried if the Conference refuses to entertain the charges.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary, No. 8.*

¶ 576. Relief of Supply Preacher

May an Annual Conference make provision for the relief of local preachers who have given long and faithful service as supply pastors? To this we reply that such provision, in our judgment, would be entirely proper, if an Annual Conference wishes so to do, but such aid must be from funds other than those raised for Conference Claimants, and from funds which must have been raised specifically for the aid of persons other than Conference Claimants.—*Journal*, 1916, *Judiciary, No. 17.*

CHAPTER VI

PROPOSED CHANGE IN CONSTITUTION

¶ 577. Admission of Laymen to Annual Conference

Adopted by the Committee on Itineracy May 22. Membership of Committee, 260; number present, 70; number voting ayes, 54; noes, 15.

There were submitted to the Committee on Itinerancy various memorials praying for Lay representation in the Annual Conferences. Inasmuch as this proposed change can be accomplished only by a constitutional amendment, this Committee respectfully [submits] the adoption of the following RESOLUTION:

"Amend Art III of Chap. I and Art. III of Chap. II, Articles of Organization and Government, of the Discipline BY STRIKING OUT ¶¶ 36 AND 39 WHICH READ AS FOLLOWS:

"¶ 36. The Traveling Preachers shall be organized by the General Conference into Annual Conferences the sessions of which they are required to attend."

"¶ 39, § 1. A Lay Electoral Conference shall be constituted quadrennially, or whenever duly called by the General Conference, within the bounds of each Annual Conference, for the purpose of electing Lay Delegates to the General Conference, and for the purpose of voting on constitutional changes. It shall be composed of Lay members one from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, chosen by the Lay members of the Charge over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine. Each Pastoral Charge shall also elect in the same manner one Reserve Delegate. Members not less than twenty-one years of age, and holding membership in the Pastoral Charges electing them, are eligible to membership in the Lay Electoral Conference.

"§ 2. The Lay Electoral Conference shall assemble at the seat of the Annual Conference on the first Friday of the session immediately preceding the General Conference, unless the General Conference shall provide otherwise.

"§ 3. The Lay Electoral Conference shall organize by electing a President and Secretary, shall adopt its own Rules of Order, and shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

"§ 4. Each Lay Electoral Conference shall be entitled

to elect as many Delegates to the General Conference as there are Ministerial Delegates from the Annual Conference. A Lay Electoral Conference may elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number, and not exceeding the number of its Delegates. These elections shall be by ballot.

"§ 5. Lay members twenty-five years of age, or over, holding membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference, and having been Lay members of the Church five years next preceding, shall be eligible to election to the General Conference. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Lay Electoral Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference."

INSERT IN THE DISCIPLINE IN LIEU OF THE PARAGRAPHS THUS STRICKEN OUT, THE FOLLOWING:

"§ 1. Annual Conferences shall be organized by the General Conference, composed of Traveling preachers holding membership therein, who are required to attend its sessions, together with one Lay Delegate from each Pastoral Charge within its bounds, such Lay Delegates to be elected by the lay members of the Charge, over twenty-one years of age, in such manner as the General Conference may determine.

"Each Charge shall also elect in like manner a Reserve Delegate.

"A Lay Delegate shall be over twenty-one years of age and for two years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"§ 2. All matters relating to the passing of character, examinations, trial of Ministerial members, Courses of Study, ordination and Conference Relations shall be determined by a vote of the Ministerial members of the Annual Conference.

"§ 3. In the Annual Conference next preceding the meeting of the General Conference there shall be held

one Ministerial session composed of the Ministerial members only, and one Lay session composed of the Lay members only. The Ministerial session shall elect the number of Ministerial Delegates and reserves to which the Conference is entitled, and the Lay session shall elect a like number of Lay Delegates. The Lay session shall also elect Reserve Delegates, not exceeding three in number. These Delegates must be twenty-five years of age, or over, hold membership in Pastoral Charges within the bounds of the Annual Conference, and must have been lay members of the Methodist Episcopal Church five years next preceding their election.

"These elections shall be by ballot. Delegates-elect who cease to be members of the Church within the bounds of the Annual Conference by which they were elected shall not be entitled to seats in the General Conference."

RESOLVED, That if the above resolutions are adopted by the General Conference, the Bishops be requested to submit the proposed amendment to the members of the Annual Conferences and to the Lay Electoral Conferences which shall meet in the years 1919 and 1920.

RESOLVED, That if the amendment shall obtain the necessary constitutional two-thirds vote of the Annual and Lay Electoral Conferences; upon the announcement of the result by the General Superintendents, ¶¶ 36 and 39 of the Discipline shall be thereby repealed; and the words "or Lay Electoral Conference" shall be stricken from ¶ 40, as shall be any other provisions contained in the Discipline which are inconsistent therewith.

RESOLVED, However, that the provisions of this change in the Constitution shall not affect the method of election of the delegates to the General Conference which convenes in the year 1920.

CHAPTER VII

GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

¶ 578. American Bible Society

The Committee on American Bible Society after reviewing the Episcopal Address, and the quadrennial report of that Society, which has been one of the official benevolences of the Church since the General Conference of 1836, together with a description of the centennial celebrations which have just been held, presents the following report:

It is profoundly impressed with the work of the Society during the century of translation, publication, and distribution, in which it has had an opportunity of participation through fellowship with this institution, which ranks among the earliest and most conspicuous of American missionary organizations. It is difficult to estimate the significances of the circulation of over one hundred and seventeen millions of copies of the Scriptures in more than one hundred and fifty languages, among the nations of the earth. The harvest from this seed-sowing everywhere results in souls awakened, Churches organized, and the Kingdom of God promoted. All missionary administrators pay tribute to the effectiveness and necessity of this work.

Bishop F. J. McConnell has recently said that if a sum of money were to be put into his hands for the rehabilitation of Mexico he would use it in Bible distribution in that distracted country. It is an astonishing fact that in spite of revolutions the Society's work has advanced in Mexico.

During the century translation and revision have been carried on by the Society in sixty-four languages.

The General Conference of 1908 requested the Society to cooperate in a revision of the Spanish Scriptures.

During the last quadrennium it has cooperated with the British and Foreign Bible Society in this work. Two members of this revision committee, the Rev. C. W. Drees and the Rev. V. Baez, are Ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is our pleasure to announce that the Society reports the completion of this revised Spanish New Testament as one of its forthcoming centennial publications for the use of our Spanish-speaking missionaries in Latin America and the Philippines.

The issues for the Quadrennium again show a remarkable advance, reaching a total of 19,398,310 volumes—nearly double that of the preceding Quadrennium.

The gifts of the Methodist Episcopal Church during the Quadrennium have amounted to $161,759, an average of about $40,000 a year. The insufficiency of current income is one of the problems of the Society. It has only been able to carry on the remarkable work of the last four years because of one or two legacies, which, under the pressure of the unprecedented world-need of the Scriptures, have been nearly exhausted. Unless there shall be a decided increase in the current gifts from the Church and living donors, the Society faces such serious retrenchment in its work as will cut deeply into its service to the Missionaries of our Church, both home and foreign. Surely, this is not the time—with the world at war—for a famine of Scriptures.

We, therefore, recommend that at least $100,000 be annually apportioned to our Churches for this cause, by those having charge of the apportioning plans under the supervision of the Commission on Finance; and that District Superintendents and Pastors urge every Charge to raise this apportionment in full.

We recommend that authority be given to the Board of Bishops to appoint an *ad interim* committee with which the Board of Managers may advise concerning the interests of the Society during the Quadrennium, provided the expenses of such committee shall be paid by the Bible Society.

¶ 579. Board of Conference Claimants

(5% in force till July 1, 1917.)

Since the apportionments in all Conferences which meet prior to July 1, 1917, have already been made by the Commission on Finance,

Resolved, That the plan of supporting the Board of Conference Claimants by the five-per-cent plan be continued in force until that time; that the limitation of the two-per-cent for Board purposes be removed; and that this resolution be printed in the Appendix to the Discipline with a note under ¶ 336 calling attention to the same.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 580. Distribution of Book Concern Produce to Foreign Conferences

Resolved, That ¶ 393 shall be interpreted as applying only to the Conferences and Missions in the United States of America, leaving the Foreign Conferences to be provided for by the Book Committee upon such basis as it shall deem equitable.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 581. Week of Prayer

The General Conference regards the annual observance of the Week of Prayer in concert with the Christian people of other denominations as highly salutary; as an appropriate recognition of the unity of the Church; as a suitable expression of faith in the efficacy of prayer; and as well calculated to promote the spirituality, activity, and prosperity of the Church of Christ.—*Journal*, 1872.

¶ 582. Day of Prayer for Colleges

The Thursday preceding the second Sunday in February shall be observed as the Day of Prayer for Colleges in all Methodist institutions, on which day special effort should be made to present the claims of Christ in an

effective manner to the heart and conscience of every student.

We recommend that pastors in their prayers especially remember our institutions of learning, their Faculties and students, that prosperity and spiritual blessing may attend them.

¶ 583. Temperance and Prohibition

Grateful to Almighty God for the rising tide of public sentiment which is sweeping toward national and world-wide prohibition of the liquor traffic; rejoicing at the rapidly changing tone of the public press, the closing of its columns to liquor advertisements, the emphatic pronouncements of medical science, the entrance into the prohibition ranks of the manufacturing and business interests of the nation, and the increasing recognition by the industrial classes of alcohol's menace to the workers' safety and welfare; we denounce the traffic as a grave and imminent national peril.

It is the one most prolific cause of insanity, crime, and poverty; the most insidious despoiler of legitimate business; the most corrupt and demoralizing influence in politics, and the most dangerous enemy to human welfare in all our civic life.

Statesmanship, ecclesiastical and civil, has denounced it; science has condemned it; business is arraying itself against it; politics is struggling to be freed from its grasp; labor seeks escape from its degrading, merciless bondage, and the embattled nations of half a world find it a more deadly foe than any they have met on war's red fields.

The expansion of religion and the preservation of civilization require its overthrow—its complete and utter annihilation.

To the consummation of this high achievement we do now and here solemnly covenant with each other and with God, our Father, and pledge ourselves to fight and spare not until the end shall have been attained.

Personal Abstinence

Believing total abstinence from the use of all intoxicants and narcotics to be the proper practice of the individual, we urge upon pastors, Sunday School superintendents, teachers, and leaders among our people the importance of education, moral suasion, and pledge signing, that the individual may be saved.

The License System

The whole license system is a colossal blunder, wrong in principle, lame in logic, a failure in practice, a fool's bargain, a sale of souls for gold. It is contrary to the teachings and the spirit of the Christian religion and at variance with all the purposes of enlightened government. It clothes the traffic with the cloak of respectability and bribes the voter with revenue.

We hold now, as in the past, that such a traffic cannot be legalized without sin.

Prohibition

We stand for the abolition of the whole traffic, and declare prohibition to be the only proper attitude of civil government toward a thing so baneful and pernicious. That there may be the speediest possible suppression of the traffic, we recommend to our people prompt and aggressive participation in every wise movement for local, State, and national prohibition. What the Czar of Russia is able to do for his people in the exercise of arbitrary power, we, the people of this free nation, in the exercise of our own sovereignty, ought to do for ourselves and for our posterity.

Enforcement of the Law

The sovereignty of the republic is the sovereignty of the people, and when the people have spoken, either in the making of a constitution or in the enactment of laws, such constitution and such laws carry within them the embodiment of that sovereignty, the supremacy of which no man and no interest can be permitted to violate or

challenge. This is true of constitutions and laws inhibiting the liquor traffic, and we stand for their faithful and consistent enforcement all the time and everywhere. To this end we counsel our people, and all good citizens of whatever sect or creed, to permit themselves to be divided no longer and to support no candidate of any party for any office who is not openly pledged to the enforcement of such constitutions and such laws.

Federal Action

We record ourselves against the issuing of internal revenue tax receipts by the Federal government to criminals engaged in violating State laws.

We urge upon the Federal Congress the immediate passage of laws prohibiting all interstate commerce in intoxicating liquors and forbidding the use of the United States mails both to liquor shipments and to liquor advertisements.

We respectfully but earnestly demand of the Congress to submit promptly to the legislatures of the several States for their ratification, an amendment to the Federal constitution providing for the absolute prohibition of the liquor traffic throughout the United States. And pending the submission and adoption of such an amendment, we demand that the Congress enact statutory prohibition to the full extent of its present constitutional powers throughout the Nation, including the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, the Canal Zone, and all the islands, reservations, ships, buildings, and premises under Federal police jurisdiction.

Worthy Agencies

We rejoice in the devotion, efficiency, and success of the agencies that represent us in promoting this great reform; in the pioneers who blazed the trail—the Washingtonians, Sons of Temperance, Good Templars, and other prohibitionists, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the White Ribbon army whose tears

melted a nation's indifference and whose prayers and deeds lifted this reform to its present high estate.

We commend the Flying Squadron Foundation, which is contributing with signal devotion and effective service to the advancement of the present great national movement.

They are all fellow-workers in the common cause and are worthy of our support.

The Anti-Saloon League

The Anti-Saloon League, organized and equipped by the men and the money of the Christian Churches of the nation, has come to represent in a peculiar sense the cause of temperance and prohibition, and we indorse and commend it as a safe and effective agency through which the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church may cooperate with members of other Churches and temperance organizations for united and vigorous action against the liquor traffic and in the enforcement of the law, and we hereby call upon our Churches to cooperate enthusiastically and effectively in this great movement.

The Church Temperance Society

Cooperating throughout the quadrennium with all these several forces, our own Church Temperance Society has been helpful and stimulating to them all. It is Methodism's direct and special agent. Acting within its own specific sphere—the securing of total abstinence pledges, the publication and distribution of literature, the inculcation of temperance and prohibition principles, the creation of temperance sentiment throughout our fellowship, and the participation of the Secretary and other representatives in State campaigns—it has richly contributed to the public good and has earned our grateful confidence. The child of the Church itself, it is entitled to the bounty of the Church.

Political Action

The time has come when the line should be definitely

and sharply drawn between the supporters and the partners of this traffic, and those who stand for its abolition. A man cannot, as a Christian citizen, sign a petition for a liquor license, rent property to be used for the purposes of the traffic, vote for it or with it, or fail to make his citizenship count as an elector in protest against the traffic's continuance. To do any one of these things is to betray his citizenship, the religion he professes, and the Church of the living Christ.

A Vision of What Is to Be

We are in the midst of a world-movement against the drug poisons of the nations. China has overthrown the opium traffic. Russia has destroyed vodka. France has prohibited absinthe, other nations seek to minimize the evils of intoxicants, and Canada, our young and vigorous neighbor, is sweeping on to actual national prohibition. Our climacteric opportunity is at hand. To-morrow there shall be fulfillment.

Steadily fixing our eyes on the last great goal—national prohibition and world sobriety—reposing our hope in an enlightened public conscience, catching inspiration and courage from an awakened Christian citizenship, and reaffirming our faith in the providence of God, we move forward in unity of purpose and solidarity of action, resolved, God helping us, that the liquor traffic shall die, and die in our day and generation.

¶ 584. Hospitals

In order that the hospitals of the Church may fulfill their mission, not only in healing the sick by the aid of skillful physicians and competent nurses, but in building up the Kingdom of God, the closest reciprocal relations should exist between them and the Conferences. Our hospitals should be ready always to receive the sick poor recommended by pastors, under proper rules and regulations, not as charity patients, but as guests of the Church.

Each Annual Conference, by formal vote, should become the patron of at least one of our Church hospitals and should contribute to its support each year a communion or other offering through its individual churches. Our Church hospitals should make ample provision for the spiritual welfare of patients, nurses, and employees, by the employment of a pastor, deaconess, or other Christian worker, to give special attention to those in need of spiritual help, and by holding stated services and providing for the administration of the sacraments.

We recommend that no hospital shall be established hereafter without the approval of the Annual Conference within whose bounds it is to be located, and that hospital property shall be held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Board of Managers of each hospital, through the Superintendent or other representative, shall render a report to patronizing Conferences at their annual session, which report shall also be printed in the annual report of the hospital, as follows: (1) Value of property. (2) Debt upon the property. (3) Amount of endowment. (4) Amount of productive endowment. (5) Income from endowment. (6) Voluntary gifts of individuals. (7) Income from private patients. (8) Income from ward patients. (9) Number of beds. (10) Income from other sources. (11) Total days' treatment given in wards and rooms, not counting dispensary patients. (12) Free patients, days' treatment. (13) Pay ward patients, days' treatment. (14) Private patients, days' treatment. (15) Individual dispensary patients treated. (16) Revisits of dispensary patients.

¶ 585. Child Welfare

The Methodist Episcopal Church indorses every intelligent organized effort to foster the welfare of childhood in its broadest aspects. It recognizes the great importance of child hygiene and stands for an adequate physical environment for every child; for medical inspection in public schools and institutions, for the correction

of physical defects, and for the testing of mental endowments that the best treatment of medical science may be employed and a proper social environment supplied; for the principle of mothers' pensions in order that the children of needy widows may be properly cared for.

It stands for Christian environment as an essential formative influence in child life, and the home as the recognized constituted authority responsible for training in faith, conduct, and habits.

It stands for an education that shall qualify for livelihood occupation as well as for thrifty living and that shall make provision for every child that none be overlooked or unwittingly excluded.

It recognizes the Methodist Child Welfare Society as an approved agency for securing the proper functioning of institutions for destitute and friendless children and the standardization of work in their behalf, that the maximum of efficient service may be rendered and the responsibility for these classes better understood.

¶ 586. Social Creed of the Churches

The Methodist Episcopal Church stands for equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life; for the protection of the family, by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulation of marriage, and proper housing; for such regulation of the conditions of toil for women as shall safeguard the physical and moral habits of the community; and for the fullest possible development of every child, especially by the provision of proper education and recreation, and by the abolition of child labor.

It stands for the abatement and prevention of poverty, by the protection of the individual and of society from the social, economic, and moral waste of the liquor traffic, by the conservation of health and by the protection of the worker from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases and injuries.

It stands for the right of all men to the opportunity

for self-maintenance, safeguarding this right against encroachments of every kind; and for the protection of workers from the hardships of enforced employment.

It stands for suitable provision for the workers in old age and for those incapacitated by injury; for the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes, and for a release from employment one day in seven.

It stands for the gradual and reasonable reduction of the hours of labor to the lowest practicable point, and for that degree of leisure for all, which is a condition of the highest human life; for a living wage as a minimum in every industry and for the highest wage that each industry can afford, and for the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised.

It stands for the right of employees and employers alike, to organize.

It stands for a new emphasis upon the application of Christian principles to the acquisition and use of property.

The Church and the Community

The particular contribution of the Churches to community life is the development of its eternal values.

They must persistently demand that the program of the community be framed with the purpose of developing, not only material comfort and prosperity, but righteousness and justice, in order that brotherhood may be a fact as well as an aspiration, and so God may come to dwell with man.

The Community Service Program

In the general field of social welfare we recommend that during the next four years the Churches concentrate attention, or at least put stress upon Unemployment, Housing, Prison Reform, Recreation. These may well constitute a four years' program of study and action for the federated Churches of any city or State. Even the

Churches in rural communities will find an opportunity to work in one of these fields, each in its own community, while it aids the development of adequate State measures in other communities. We also urge country Churches to consider in this connection their duty regarding "Farm Labor," "Tenancy," and "Rural Cooperation" according to the recommendations of the Country Church Commission of the Federal Council.

In these and all other fields of social progress the Church must constantly urge its members to support concrete measures. But it has also a higher task. Its supreme social function is to educate the community in the fundamental principles which underlie these movements of social progress, to uphold the ideals by which they are conceived, to develop the atmosphere in which they are born, the individuals who will carry them to maturity, and the dynamic which will make them effective.

Training for Service

In every center of population there should be some organized method of training Church members for voluntary service to the community, and for putting them to work with community agencies. This can be worked out by the federated Churches in conjunction with local social workers and educational institutions. It is possible to get such training in rural communities through institutes, conducted jointly by the Churches and the State forces of education.

Industrial Conditions

We call upon our members as employers, investors, or wage-earners to do everything that lies in their power to initiate and promote measures and movements that make for the realization of our standard:

"A living wage as a minimum in every industry and the highest wage that each industry can afford, and the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised."

The Church has spent much toil and money in providing higher education. Its membership is increasingly an educated group, yet the toiling mass of mankind was the rock from which it was originally hewn, the pit from which it was first dug. With this history behind it, if the Church should stand aloof from the struggle of the industrial toilers of to-day to secure time and strength for the discipline of education, its right hand would lose its cunning and its tongue cleave to the roof of its mouth. Because the teachings of Jesus demand equality of opportunity for all, because their application means both the brotherhood of leisure and the brotherhood of toil, we call upon all our members to support the efforts of the industrial workers to secure release from fatigue and the benefits of leisure.

Industrial Democracy

With the demand for industrial democracy the Churches are intensely concerned, for democracy is the expression of Christianity.

The first method of realizing democracy in industry is through collective bargaining.

It would naturally follow that since the Church is itself a large employer of labor, directly and indirectly, it must itself in some way realize collective bargaining; either in one of the two forms which are now developed or in some other yet to be devised. A sound principle to govern the Church as an employer would appear to be that in recognition of the price being paid by organized labor to improve conditions of industry, on account of its general contribution to the community welfare, every possible endeavor should be made to work with it, in so far as its methods are just, and in so far as the rights of unorganized men are not infringed upon.

Christianity moves up to higher ground. It requires the supremacy of the principle of cooperation in the industrial world. The Church must, therefore, clearly teach the principle of the fullest possible cooperative con-

trol and ownership of industry and of the natural resources upon which industry depends, in order that men may be spurred to develop the methods that shall adequately express this principle. Then will industry become a religious experience, developing mutual service and sacrifice, the interpretation in economic terms of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 587. Work Among Non-English-Speaking People

The District Superintendent shall bring before the Quarterly Conference the need of missionary work by the Local Church among the non-English-speaking population. And if deemed advisable the Quarterly Conference shall authorize the Standing Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to organize evening classes for the instruction of foreigners living in the community in the principles of Christianity and good citizenship, and shall also in connection with the superintendent of the Sunday School organize classes in the Sunday School for the instruction of the children of non-English-speaking people.—*Journal*, 1916.

¶ 588. Benevolence Voucher

In the interest of efficiency and economy, we recommend:

First, That all Pastors or local Church Treasurers forward at least quarterly to the Treasurer of each connectional Board all moneys received for the same.

Second, That each Board issue vouchers plainly stamped or otherwise indicated as official vouchers.

Third, That each Board prepare blank forms to be used by the local Treasurers in making quarterly remittances. These forms to be in duplicate and not good if detached before delivery to the Conference Treasurer.

Fourth, That Conference Treasurers be instructed to

recognize only official vouchers and immediately following the auditing of their accounts to forward these vouchers to the various Quarterly Conferences and their duplicates to the Connectional Boards at their respective headquarters.—*Journal*, 1916.

CHAPTER VIII

UNIFICATION AND FEDERATION

¶ 589. Unification

Preamble

The Methodist Episcopal Church, in General Conference assembled, hails with joy the prospect of an early reunion with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

We believe that the united Church will have greatly increased power in its conflict with evil in all lands, that it will be able to lay a more effective emphasis on the fundamentals of Christianity, and that it will be more potent in developing the higher loyalty to the supremacy of our common Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

We believe that such a union will hasten the development of a truly world-Church, which will make for the rapid advancement and final triumph of the kingdom of God in the world.

Reply to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South

Your Committee on Unification therefore recommends that the General Conference make the following declarations:

1. The Methodist Episcopal Church considers the plan outlined in the suggestions that were adopted by the Joint Commission representing the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Protestant Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and approved by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church,

South, with one modifying recommendation, as tentative, but nevertheless as containing the basic principles of a genuine unification of the Methodist bodies in the United States, and especially of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by the method of reorganization.

2. The Methodist Episcopal Church regards the unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Methodist Protestant Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the plan proposed by the Joint Commission on Federation, as feasible and desirable, and hereby declares itself in favor of the unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, in accordance with this general plan of reorganization, with the following recommendations:

(*a*) That the General Conference be made the supreme legislative, executive, and judicial body of the Church under constitutional provisions and restrictions.

(*b*) That the number of Quadrennial Conferences as stated in the proposed plan be so increased as to provide more adequately for the needs of the reorganized Church both at home and abroad.

(*c*) That the General Conference consist of a single house, made up of delegates elected by the Quadrennial or Annual Conferences, or both.

(*d*) That, conforming to the suggestion of the Joint Commission, the colored membership of the reorganized Church be constituted into one or more Quadrennial or Jurisdictional Conferences.

We also favor the unification of all or any Methodist bodies who accept this proposed plan after it has been accepted and perfected by both the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

3. The Board of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church is hereby authorized and instructed to appoint a Commission of twenty-five members, five Bishops, ten Ministers, and ten Laymen, to confer with Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Methodist

Protestant Church, and other Methodist bodies in the United States, in elaborating and perfecting the tentative plan that has been proposed, and in carrying forward such negotiations as have for their purpose, and shall result in, the consummation of the proposed unification in accordance with the basic principles enunciated in the suggestions which were adopted by the Joint Commission and approved by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Episcopal Church. So sincerely do we believe that the union of the two Episcopal Methodisms is the will of God, and so earnestly and devoutly do we desire that these two Churches may be one, that we hereby authorize and instruct the Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church to conduct the negotiations in a generous and brotherly spirit.

This Commission shall report to the next General Conference the full details of the plan of unification which may be agreed upon by the Joint Commission on Unification for its consideration and final determination. —*Journal*, 1916, *Report No. 2, Committee of Sixty.*

¶ 590. Union with Churches Other than the Methodist Episcopal Church, South

Whereas, A memorial has been presented to this General Conference from the delegates of the Southern California Conference, requesting that the Methodist Episcopal Church take the initiative in an effort to effect a union with the United Brethren Church.

Resolved, That we request the Commission of Twenty-five which shall be appointed to negotiate terms of union with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, also to take up with the proper officials of the United Brethren Church the question of the desirability of a merger of the two Churches, and the conditions under which such union may be effected.

Resolved, That we request the Commission of Unifica-

tion which shall negotiate conditions of union with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, also to conduct negotiations with the Methodist Protestant Church looking to a union with that denomination.

Resolved, Further, that we empower the Commission on Unification with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to conduct negotiations with any other Church which may be willing to consider terms and conditions of union with our denomination.—*Journal*, 1916, *Report No. 5, Committee of Sixty.*

¶ 591. Federal Council of Methodism

The General Conference recognizes the agreements with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by which the Federal Council of Methodism was constituted and empowered to hear and finally determine all cases of conflict or misunderstanding arising between the two Churches (Discipline, 1912, ¶ 563), as still binding, and, in no way affected by the present negotiations for the reorganization of the two Churches into one body; and, while we sincerely hope that no new instances of conflict, or complaint, may arise pending the present negotiations for unity, we nevertheless abide by all the pledges and implications contained in the action of previous General Conferences in creating and empowering said Federal Council; and we hereby instruct and authorize the Commission on Unification to designate three Bishops, three Ministers, and three Laymen, chosen from its own membership, to act as members of said Federal Council in behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and under such Rules of Procedure as may be agreed upon between themselves, and the members representing the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to hear, and finally determine all cases of conflict or misunderstanding arising between the two Churches, during the coming quadrennium; and we hereby affectionately and earnestly admonish all our administrative officers and our people to conduct the

affairs of the Church in accordance with the solemn agreements between the two Churches and in such brotherly spirit as to avoid as far as possible all misunderstandings.—*Journal*, 1916, *Report No. 3, Committee of Sixty.*

¶ 592. Federation of Colored Methodist Churches

Whereas, The Commission on Federation of Colored Methodist Churches of the Methodist Episcopal Church has entered into agreement with certain Colored Methodist bodies, namely, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, to cooperate and federate in certain matters essential to the growth of Christ's kingdom as set forth in the report of the Commission:

Resolved, That the General Conference hereby authorizes the continuance of the Commission on Federation of Colored Methodist Churches; said Commission to consist of three Bishops, three Ministers, and three Laymen, to be appointed by the Board of Bishops.

Resolved, further, That this commission is authorized to carry out the articles of agreement as to cooperation and federation with the Colored Methodist Churches aforesaid, and is also urged to study all phases of the question relating to the colored membership of our Church and organic union, and to seek full information as to the relation which the colored membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church may prefer to sustain to the proposed United Methodist Church.—*Journal*, 1916, *Report No. 6, Committee of Sixty.*

¶ 593. Federal Council of the Churches of Christ

Your Committee on the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, of which the Methodist Episcopal Church, through this General Conference, is

one of the original constituent bodies, to which you referred the report and other documents submitted by the Federal Council, have examined the same and recommend that the work of the Federal Council during the past Quadrennium be approved.

The following resolutions are presented for your approval:

1. That the Board of Bishops be authorized and requested to appoint the representatives and the alternates to the number allowed by the Constitution of the Federal Council, to represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, as members of the said Council during the coming Quadrennium and to urge upon the appointees their attendance at the quadrennial meeting to be held in December, 1916.

2. That the Board of Bishops be authorized and requested to designate one of their own number or one of the representatives provided for in the above resolution, to serve as a channel of communication between the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and the Methodist Episcopal Church for the Quadrennium.

3. That we appreciate the deep significance of the proposed movement for the larger effort to secure adequate relief for the sufferers from the wars in Europe and Asia and approve the proposed communication to the Ministers of the Churches of Christ in America in behalf of the general war relief movement.

4. That we congratulate the Federal Council and its officers upon the quantity and quality of the work it has done and approve of the plans for the future, that have been submitted to this Conference.—*Journal*, 1916.

CHAPTER IX

FORMS AND CONSTITUTIONS

¶ 594, § 1. Constitution for a Sunday School

ARTICLE I. This School shall be called the Sunday School of ....., auxiliary to the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and connected with the Quarterly Conference of ..... It shall consist of the Preacher in Charge, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Officers, the Teachers, and the Pupils.

ARTICLE II. The object of this School shall be the promotion of Christian character through the devout and diligent study of the Word of God.

ARTICLE III. The Local Sunday School Board shall consist of the Pastor, who shall be *ex officio* chairman, the Sunday School Committee appointed by the Quarterly Conference, the Superintendent, who shall be *ex officio* Vice-Chairman, the Assistant Superintendents, the heads of departments, the duly elected Secretaries, Treasurer, and Librarians, the Teachers of the School, the Assistant Teachers nominated and elected in the same way as the Teachers, the President of the Sunday School Missionary Society, the President of the Sunday School Temperance Society, and the Home Department Visitors, who shall be elected in the same way as the Teachers. In case of withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they shall cease to be members of the Board.

ARTICLE IV. The Superintendent shall be elected annually by ballot by the Local Sunday School Board, subject to confirmation by the Quarterly Conference at its next session after such election. In case of a vacancy the Preacher in Charge shall superintend, or secure the superintending of, the School, until such time as the

Superintendent elected by the Local Sunday School Board be confirmed by the Quarterly Conference. The other Officers of the School shall be elected annually, by ballot, by the Local Sunday School Board on ..... The Teachers of the School shall be nominated by the Superintendent, with the concurrence of the Pastor, and elected annually by the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE V. Regular meetings of this Board shall be held on the ..... of each month, for the transaction of such business as relates to the interest of the School, at which the following order shall be observed: 1. Singing and prayer. 2. Calling roll. 3. Reading minutes. 4. Unfinished business. 5. Reports from Committees. 6. Reports from Superintendents. 7. Report from Treasurer. 8. Report from Librarian concerning the state of the Library and the number and kind of periodicals taken by the School. 9. Reports from the Pastor and from the Sunday School Committee. 10. Reports from the Teachers. 11. Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE VI. At all meetings for business ..... shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Pastor, the Superintendent, or by any three of the members.

ARTICLE VIII. In case of the withdrawal of Officers or Teachers from the School they cease to be members of this Board; and the place of any Officer or Teacher habitually neglecting his or her duty, inefficient, or guilty of improper conduct, or of teaching contrary to the accepted doctrines of our Church, may be declared vacant by a vote of two thirds of the Board present at any regular or special meeting. When a Teacher ceases to teach, without the consent of the Superintendent, membership in the Local Sunday School Board shall thereby be discontinued.

ARTICLE IX. Vacancies in offices may be filled at any monthly or special meeting, one month's notice having been given of the election.

ARTICLE X. This Constitution shall not be altered except by two thirds of all the members present at a meeting called for that purpose; and such alterations must be in harmony with the provisions of the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Journal.*

§ 2. Constitution for a Sunday School Missionary Society

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the Missionary Society of the ———— Methodist Episcopal Sunday School, and shall be auxiliary to the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE II. The object of this Society shall be to promote in all practical ways the interests of the Missionary cause within the bounds of this School.

ARTICLE III. All the members of this School shall be members of the Society.

ARTICLE IV. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall together constitute a Board of Managers, to be elected annually by the Sunday School Board on the ..... of .....

ARTICLE V. A part of the session of the School on the first Sunday of every month shall be set apart for Missionary exercises and the reception of gifts for the cause of Missions; and it shall be the duty of the Board of Managers to provide for such exercises, varying the program from month to month in such a way as to engage actively as many of the School as possible in acquiring and supplying information and inspiration on Missionary topics. The Managers shall also devise and set in vigorous operation whatever schemes they can, such as mite-boxes, collection cards, occasional Missionary concerts, or sales, etc., for increasing the Missionary contributions of the School.

ARTICLE VI. The President shall preside during that

part of the school time which is devoted to Missions: the Secretary shall read at each monthly meeting a report of the previous meeting. The Treasurer shall receive the funds raised by the Society and pay them as follows: forty-five per cent to the Board of Foreign Missions, forty-five per cent to the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, and ten per cent to the Board of Sunday Schools. The President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall make a semiannual report to the Society on the first Sundays of April and October.

ARTICLE VII. Vacancies in the offices may be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Sunday School Board.

ARTICLE VIII. This Constitution shall not be altered except by vote of two thirds of all the members of the Local Sunday School Board, at a meeting called for that purpose.

¶ 595. Charges

§ 1. In drafting charges and specifications for the trial of an accused member of the Church there should be a brief statement, defining the offense by its generic name, such as "Defamation," "Dishonesty," "Lying," "Imprudent Conduct," "Indulging Sinful Tempers or Words," "Disobedience to the Order and Discipline of the Church," "Neglecting Prayer Meetings," "Neglecting Class Meetings," etc. Each charge should be accompanied with one or more specifications germane to the charge; and the following forms may serve to illustrate the manner of preparing charges and specifications. The charges and specifications must be so varied in the several cases as to meet the facts or evidence relied upon for conviction. The bill of charges should be signed by one or more members of the Church, and must be addressed to the Preacher in Charge of the Circuit or Station in which the accused person holds his membership.

§ 2. IMMORAL CONDUCT

FORM NO. I

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of .... Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: The undersigned, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, complains to you that C. D., a member of the same Church, has been guilty of Immoral Conduct, and he is hereby charged therewith as follows:

CHARGE: DEFAMATION

Specification 1. The said C. D., on the ..... day of ...., 19...., at ...., did write and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following false and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the writing complained of.*)

Specification 2. The said C. D., on the ..... day of .... 19...., at ...., did utter and publish, maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, the following defamatory and libelous matter of and concerning E. F., to wit: (*Here copy the matter published.*)

Specification 3. The said C. D., on the ——— day of ——, 19——, at ——, did maliciously and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, speak, utter, and publish, in the hearing of divers persons, the following false and slanderous words concerning E. F., that is to say, "*He* [meaning the said E. F.] *is a thief.*" [Signed] M. N.

FORM NO. II

[The address to the Preacher in Charge should be the same as in No. 1.]

CHARGE: LYING

Specification. The said C. D., on the .... day of .... 19...., at ...., did, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, falsely and willfully say (*here insert what was said*), or words to that effect, knowing the statement to be misleading and false. [Signed] M. N.

§ 3. IMPRUDENT AND UNCHRISTIAN CONDUCT

In this class of cases preliminary labor is required before the accused person is liable to be arraigned and tried, and it should be averred in the complaint that such preliminary labor has been performed, for without such averment there is nothing to show that the person is liable to be tried. The following form may be use:

FORM NO. III

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of .... Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, indulged sinful tempers, and was afterward reproved, as the Discipline provides; yet the said C. D. was guilty of a second transgression, and he was again reproved as the Discipline provides; yet, notwithstanding these repeated reproofs, the said C. D. continues impenitent and still persists in indulging sinful tempers, thereby bringing reproach upon the Church; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of the said C. D., and charges him as follows:

CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

Specification. The said C. D., on the .... day of ...., 19...., at ....., and at other times and places, namely (*here specify times and places*), did on three several occasions become angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

FORM NO. IV

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of .... Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Forasmuch as C. D., on the .... day of ...., 19...., at .... became angry and indulged sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, and, though reproved therefor after the manner prescribed in the Discipline, he made no acknowledgment of the fault, and showed no proper humiliation, and he still con-

tinues impenitent; therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

CHARGE: INDULGING SINFUL TEMPERS

Specification. C. D., on the .... day of ...., at ...., became angry and indulged in sinful tempers, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline; and, notwithstanding he has been reproved on account thereof, as the Discipline provides, he has made no acknowledgment of the fault, and has shown no proper humiliation, but continues impenitent, in violation of the Rules of the Discipline.

[Signed] M. N.

§ 4. NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE

FORM NO. V

To A. B., Preacher in Charge of .... Circuit or Station:

DEAR BROTHER: Inasmuch as C. D., a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, had for a long time neglected public worship, and having so neglected was visited by the Preacher, who explained to him the consequences should he continue such neglect; and yet, notwithstanding such visit and explanation, he does not amend, but continues to neglect public worship, therefore the undersigned complains to you of the conduct of C. D., and hereby charges him as follows:

CHARGE: HABITUAL NEGLECT OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Specification. The said C. D., unmindful of his duty, and in violation of the Rules of the Discipline, does habitually neglect public worship. [Signed] M. N.

NOTE.—It is sufficient to charge the offense by its generic name, and under such charge the complaint may set forth in specifications as many instances of the offense as it may seem proper to insert, provided, always, the specification must sustain the charge. In preparing the charges and specifications care should be taken in setting out the offense so to describe it in each specification as that it shall embody the essential elements of the offense, that the accused may be apprised more certainly of the nature of the charge upon which he is to be arraigned and tried.

CHAPTER X

COURSES OF STUDY

I. In General

¶ 596, § 1. The General Conference earnestly recommends to all candidates for the Ministry of our Church that they complete a full collegiate course of study, and, if possible, a course in one of our Theological Schools, before applying for admission to an Annual Conference.

§ 2. No candidate shall be admitted to an Annual Conference on trial until he shall have completed a course of study equivalent to the University Senate requirements for admission to college, except under special conditions and then only after, at least, three years successful ministerial service under a District Superintendent, and only by two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference.

§ 3. The Annual Conference cannot excuse a preacher on trial from the legally prescribed Conference course of study or admit him into full membership without satisfactory examination upon such course of study.

—*Journal*, 1916.

II. Certificates

¶ 597, § 1. Certificates from our regular Theological Seminaries, Universities, and Colleges approved by our University Senate may be accepted by the Conferences: provided, (1) that each certificate shall distinctly show that the student has been a regular attendant on the classroom instruction in the specified book; and (2) that he has passed a thorough examination in the book, gaining a standing equivalent to that fixed in ¶ 598, § 5, it being understood that the Annual Conference shall examine all candidates in regard to their personal attitude toward the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church.

§ 2. Any Conference also, at its discretion, may accept similar certificates from the institutions above described, indicating like proficiency in any particular study, secured by the use of a different book or by lectures fully equivalent to the corresponding book in our Course of Study.

§ 3. Similar certificates in studies not biblical or theological may be accepted from other than Methodist Colleges, if of equal grade with those approved by our University Senate, and in American history from academies or seminaries either approved by our University Senate, or of equal grade with those thus approved.

§ 4. Graduates of college, who are also graduates of one of our regular theological seminaries, shall be exempted from examination on the Conference Course of Studies, except on the Discipline.

§ 5. A certificate of admission to, or graduation from any high school or academy of good standing may be accepted in place of an examination in "The English Language."

§ 6. All certificates shall state the time when the studies were pursued.

§ 7. A certificate for the purpose of recording the annual markings in the required studies for the entire course shall be issued to persons licensed to preach or received on trial.

III. Method of Conducting Conference Examinations

¶ 598, § 1. In each Annual Conference a Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the presiding Bishop, consisting of not less than eight nor more than twenty-four members, care being taken to select men with special qualifications for the work, to which shall be referred all Preachers, both traveling and local, pursuing the Course of Study with a view to ordination or Conference membership. This Board shall be continued for a term of four years, subject to reappointment. Vacancies shall

be filled by the Bishop at each session of the Annual Conference.

§ 2. This Board shall organize by electing one of its members Chairman and another Registrar, the latter to keep a permanent record of the standing of the students, and report to the Conference when required. This record shall include the credits allowed students for work done in Theological Seminaries and Colleges described in ¶ 597.

§ 3. The Chairman shall assign to each Examiner the books or subjects in which he is to give instruction by correspondence and final examination, for which examination he shall prepare and send to the Chairman printed or written questions, at least ten in number, two weeks before the time of examination. Vacancies occurring in the Board of Examiners during the year may be filled by the Chairman until the ensuing Annual Conference.

§ 4. One or two examinations may be held during the year in locations convenient to the students. These examinations shall be under the personal supervision of some member of the Board delegated by the Chairman.

§ 5. The examinations shall be in writing, if practicable, and in the presence of witnesses, and in that case the papers shall be sent for marking to the Examiners by whom the questions were prepared. In special cases the Chairman may appoint supervisors other than members of the Board before whom students may take their examinations, and such supervisors shall sign the papers and send them to the respective Examiners. The examinations shall be graded upon the scale of 100, and no examination graded below 70 per cent shall pass. The Examiners shall report promptly the marking of each paper to the Registrar.

§ 6. The provision for mid-year examinations shall not deprive any student of the opportunity of being examined at the seat and time of the Annual Conference.

§ 7. The Board of Examiners shall convene at the

seat and time of the Annual Conference, the day before the session opens, to review and complete the work of the year, to examine any students who have not been examined during the year, and to arrange for the work of the year to come.

§ 8. Examinations held after July 1, 1917, shall be upon the courses prescribed by the Discipline of 1916, until further revision of these courses, as indicated below.

FOR THE MINISTRY

ENGLISH COURSES

¶ 599. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND EXAMINERS

Special attention is called to the "Directions and Helps" as listed in the following courses. These consist of leaflets and pamphlets giving the student directions for his work and helps for his study. They indicate also the work to be done in the regular subjects of the year and in the "Collateral Reading and Study." The special tasks assigned in them are a part of the required course. They are to be ordered from the Book Concern.

A pamphlet containing suggestions and directions for Conference Boards of Examiners will be furnished free to each examiner, together with that part of the "Directions and Helps" which pertains to the subjects assigned to him. These will be furnished through the Conference Registrars, who are asked to report the names and addresses of examiners, and the subjects assigned to each on the basis of the new course. Address The Commission on Courses of Study, H. F. Rall, Secretary, 714 Foster Street, Evanston, Illinois.

Wherever it is at all possible, the Annual Conference is urged to make provision through its Board of Examiners for a midyear institute, at which examinations may

be held, instruction given to the men in the course of study, and lectures and addresses offered for all preachers.

A final revision of the courses of study for the quadrennium, with a new edition of the "Directions and Helps," will be issued in the summer or fall of 1918, to become effective for all examinations held after July 1, 1919. Due announcement of this and of any other changes in the courses will be made through the Church papers and to the Registrars.

§ 2. EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION ON TRIAL

1. The English Language:
   (*a*) The Art of Writing English.—*Brown and Barnes.*
   (*b*) All papers submitted by the candidate shall be examined and marked with reference to the use of English.
2. American History.—*James and Sanford.*
3. Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1916, with special Reference to the Twenty-five Articles. [For a good commentary on these, see Wheeler, Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church.]
4. Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester.*
5. Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*Wesley.* The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than five hundred words giving a summary of the contents.
6. The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than one thousand words upon one of the following subjects, using only the materials found in the Bible: The Life of Moses, the Life of David, the Life of Jesus as recorded in Mark, the Life of Paul as given in Acts. The subject to be written upon shall be assigned at the time of the examination.
7. A written sermon.
8. Directions and Helps for the Examination for Admission (see under § 1).

§ 3. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FIRST YEAR

1. New Testament History.—*Rall.*
2. Human Behaviour.—*Colvin and Bagley.*
3. The Making of the Sermon.—*Pattison.*
4. How to Study and Teaching How to Study.—*McMurray.*
5. Directions and Helps for the First Year (see under § 1).

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. The Church School.—*Athearn.*
2. Public Worship.—*Hoyt.*
3. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull.*
4. The Pastor-Preacher.—*Quayle.*
5. Winning the Fight Against Drink.—*Eaton.*
6. The Life of the Spirit in the Modern English Poets.—*Scudder.*
7. Francis Asbury.—*Tipple.*
8. The Methodist Review.

§ 4. COURSE OF STUDY FOR SECOND YEAR

1. (*a*) Dictionary of the Bible (I Vol. Edition).—*Hastings.*
   (See "Directions and Helps" for assignment of work.)
   (*b*) The Bible in the Making.—*Smyth.*
   (*c*) How We Got Our Bible.—*Smyth.*
2. A Short History of the Christian Church.—*Moncrief.*
3. (*a*) The Pupil and the Teacher.—*Weigle.*
   (*b*) The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer.*
4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher.*
5. Directions and Helps for the Second Year (see under § 1).

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. The Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen.*
2. Education in Religion and Morals.—*Coe.*

3. The Preacher, His Life and Work.—*Jowett.*
4. Letters on Evangelism.—*Hughes.*
5. Solving the Country Church Problem.—*Bricker.*
6. History of Methodism (Vol. I).—*Stevens.*
7. Life of Luther.—*McGiffert.*
8. The Methodist Review.

§ 5. COURSE OF STUDY FOR THIRD YEAR

1. Beacon Lights of Prophecy.—*Knudson.*
2. Foundations of Christian Belief.—*Strickland.*
3. (*a*) Socialism and Modern Social Problems.—*Ellwood.*
   (*b*) Social Institutions and Ideals of the Bible.—*Soares.*
4. Introduction to the Study of Comparative Religion.—*Jevons.*
5. Directions and Helps for the Third Year (see under § 1).

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne.*
2. The Fact of Christ.—*Simpson.*
3. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch.*
4. Social Evangelism.—*Ward.*
5. The Community Survey in Relation to Church Efficiency.—*Carroll.*
6. History of Methodism (Vol. II).—*Stevens.*
7. Life of Phillips Brooks (briefer edition).—*Allen.*
8. The Methodist Review.

§ 6. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FOURTH YEAR

1. Paul and His Epistles.—*Hayes.*
2. System of Christian Doctrine.—*Sheldon.* (Except Part I and Appendix.)
3. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot.*
4. (*a*) The New Home Missions.—*Douglas.*
   (*b*) Social Aspects of Foreign Missions.—*Faunce.*
5. Directions and Helps for the Fourth Year (see under § 1).

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Historical Geography of the Holy Land.—*Smith.*
2. The Book of Isaiah (Vol. 1). Expositor's Bible —*Smith.*
3. Outline of Christian Theology.—*Clarke.*
4. The Call of the World.—*Doughty.*
5. The Church a Community Force.—*Tippy.*
6. The Minister as Shepherd.—*Jefferson.*
7. History of Methodism (Vol. III).—*Stevens.*
8. The Methodist Review.

¶ 600. License to Preach

Candidates for License to Preach are to be examined in the common branches of an English education, and on their general knowledge of the Bible, and of the Doctrines and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Note.—In the case of Local Preachers who are candidates for the Traveling Ministry, examinations may be suspended while they are pursuing regular Courses of Study in our Theological Seminaries or in Universities or Colleges approved by the University Senate, until they shall become candidates for Deacons' or Elders' orders.

¶ 601. Local Preachers

§ 1. First Year

1. Life of Christ.—*Stalker.*
2. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler.*

To be read:

1. The Making of the Bible.—*Vernon.*
2. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom.*
3. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur.*

§ 2. Second Year

1. Life of St. Paul.—*Stalker.*
2. The Church School.—*Athearn.*

To be read:

1. John Wesley, the Methodist.
2. Everyday Evangelism.—*Leete.*
3. Variety in the Prayer Meeting.—*Ward.*

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1916.
2. Landmarks of Church History.—*Cowan.*

To be read:

1. Prophecy and the Prophets.—*Eiselen.*
2. The Fact of Christ.—*Simpson.*
3. The Meaning of Prayer.—*Fosdick.*

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. The Work of Preaching.—*Hoyt.*
2. The Social Creed of the Churches.—*Ward.*

To be read:

1. The Call of the World.—*Doughty.*
2. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle.*
3. Francis Asbury.—*Tipple.*

¶ 602. Local Preachers Who Are Candidates for Orders

§ 1. DEACONS' ORDERS

Local Preachers who are Candidates for Deacons' Orders must present satisfactory evidence that they have completed the four years' course of study, and must pass a satisfactory examination on the following course at the Annual Conference:

1. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne.*
2. The Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen.*
3. A Compendious History of American Methodism.—*Stevens.*
4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher.*
5. Social Solutions.—*Hall.*

§ 2. ELDERS' ORDERS

Local Deacons who are Candidates for Elders' Orders must pass a satisfactory examination at the Annual Conference on the following course:

1. Paul and His Epistles.—*Hayes.*
2. The Person and Place of Christ.—*Forsyth.*

3. The Preacher, His Life and Work.—*Jowett.*
4. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot.*
5. The Rural Church Movement.—*Earp.*

¶ 603. Class Leaders

See ¶ 64, § 2

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1916.
2. The Drill Master of Methodism.—*Goodell.*
3. The Class Meeting.—*FitzGerald.*
4. The Bible and Life.—*Hughes.*
5. Individual Work for Individuals.—*Trumbull.*
6. John Wesley, the Methodist.
7. The Place of Prayer in the Christian Religion.—*Campbell.*
8. How to Study the Bible.—*Clifford and Moule.*
9. Religious Education in the Home.—*Folsom.*
10. The Making of the Bible.—*Vernon.*
11. A Compendious History of American Methodism.—*Stevens.*
12. Variety in the Prayer Meeting.—*Ward.*
13. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill.*
14. Missions Versus Militarism.—*Stevenson.*
15. Laymen in Action.—*Quayle.*

GERMAN COURSES

¶ 604. Reiseprediger

§ 1. ZULASSUNG AUF PROBE

1. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.—*Nast.*
2. Geschichte des Methodismus.—*Kriege.*
3. Kirchenordnung, 1916. (I-IV Teil.)
4. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.*
5. Ein Aufsatz, in welchem der Kandidat einen Bericht

über seinen Bildungsgang, seine Bekehrung und seine Berufung zum Predigtamt giebt.

Zum Lesen:[1]

a. Deutsche Sprach und Stillehre.—*Weise.*[2]

b. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I Teil, 33 Predigten.)

c. Die Christliche Erfahrung.—*Merrill.*

d. Die religiös-sittliche Erziehung der Jugend.—*Hertzler.*

§ 2. Erstes Jahr

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.*[3] (§§ 1-6, 10-29.)
2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber.* (§§ 1-29.)
3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (I Teil.)
4. Homiletik.—*Burt.*
5. Kirchenordnung, 1916. (V-IX Teil.)
6. Schriftliche Arbeit.[4]

Zum Lesen:

a. Unsere Muttersprache.—*Weise.*

b. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer.*[5] (I Teil.)

c. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)

d. Geschichte des Methodismus. (Neue Bremer Ausgabe.)

§ 3. Zweites Jahr

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.* (§§ 30-64.)
2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber.* (§§ 30-53 und Anhang.)
3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (II Teil.)

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[1] Die Kandidaten sollen schriftlich bezeugen, dass sie die betreffenden Bücher gelesen haben und sollen einen Auszug aus einem von den Examinatoren bezeichneten Kapitel einhändigen.

[2] In den deutschen Konferenzen in Amerika wird hierüber ein Examen verlangt.

[3] In den deutschen Konferenzen in Europa kann die Glaubenslehre von Sulzberger gebraucht werden.

[4] Das Thema der schriftlichen Arbeit Predigt oder Abhandlung ist jedesmal von der Prüfungskommission festzusetzen.

[5] In der Schweizer Konferenz kann die Allgemeine Geschichte von Pechsli gebraucht werden.

4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus.* (I Teil.)
5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler.* (§§ 1-114.)
6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen:

a. Weltgeschichte der Neuzeit.—*Schäfer.* (II Teil.)
b. Kennst du das Land?—*Schneller.*
c. Jugendlehre.—*Förster.*
d. Die Wunder des Unglaubens.—*Ballard-König.*

§ 4. Drittes Jahr

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.* (§§ 65-101.)
2. Einleitung in die Heilige Schrift.—*Weber.* (Neues Testament.)
3. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (III. I Teil.)
4. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus.* (II Teil.)
5. Biblische Altertümer.—*Kinzler.* (§§ 115-142.)
6. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen:[1]

a. Deutsche Literaturgeschichte.—*K. Stork.*
b. Der Glaube im Neuen Testament.—*Schlatter.*
c. Geschichte der Protestantischen Missionen.—*Warneck.*
d. Centralfragen der Dogmatik.—*Ihmels.*
e. Philosophische Weltanschauungen und ihre Hauptvertreter.—*Heussner.*

§ 5. Viertes Jahr

1. System der Christlichen Lehre.—*Schneider.* (§§ 102-end.)
2. Kirchengeschichte.—*Appel.* (III. II Teil.)
3. Neutestamentliche Theologie.—*Van Oosterzee.*
4. Allgemeine Pädagogik.—*Nieden.*
5. Schriftliche Arbeit.

Zum Lesen:[1]

[1] Als Ersatz für ein theologisches Buch gilt das Lesen einer theologischen Zeitschrift. Methodist Review oder Der Geisteskampf der Gegenwart.

a. Handbuch der Religionsgeschichte.—*Wurm.*
b. Natur und Bibel.—*Reim.*
c. Christentum und Klassenkampf.—*Förster.*
d. Persönlichkeit Christliche Lebensphilosophie.—*Pfennigsdorf.*

¶ 605. Lokalprediger

§ 1. BEVOLLMAECHTIGUNG ZUM PREDIGEN

Die Kandidaten für Bevollmächtigung zum Predigen sollen eine Prüfung bestehen über ihre Bibelkenntnis und Bekanntschaft mit den Lehren und Gebräuchen der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.

§ 2. ERSTES JAHR

1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.* (Altes Testament.)
2. Der grössere Katechismus der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche.—*Nast.*
3. Die Kirchenordnung. (Ausgabe vom Jahr 1912.)

Zum Lesen:

1. Die Christliche Erfahrung auf den verschiedenen Stufen des Gnadenwerks.—*Merrill.*
2. Wesley und seine Mitarbeiter.—*Nast.*

§ 3. ZWEITES JAHR

1. Lehrbuch der Heiligen Geschichte.—*Kurtz.* (Neues Testament.)
2. Wesleys Predigten. (Deutsche Ausgabe, I Teil, 33 Predigten.)
3. Christliche Kirchengeschichte.—*Calwer Verein.*

Zum Lesen:

1. Geschichte Deutschlands; oder der Vereinigten Staaten; von irgend einem anerkannten Verfasser.

§ 4. DRITTES JAHR

1. Die feurige Zunge.—*Arthur.*
2. Wesleys Predigten. (II Teil, 35 Predigten.)
3. Christliche Vollkommenheit.—*Wesley.*

4. Glaubensartikel und Hauptlehren.—*Sulzberger.*

Zum Lesen:

1. Das Christliche Heilsleben.—*Paulus.*
2. Das Leben Jesu.—*Weitbrecht.*

§ 5. VIERTES JAHR

Wiederholung des vorhergehenden dreijährigen Kursus.

Zum Lesen:

1. Geschichte der Bischöflichen Methodisten Kirche, 2 Bände.—*Stevens.*
2. Die Hauptlehren des Methodismus.—*Paulus.*
3. Bibliche Altertümer.—*Kinzler.*

NORWEGIAN AND DANISH COURSES

FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES

¶ 606. Studiekursus for Norsk-danske Methodist prædikanter i Amerika

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard.*
2. Geografi.—*Olaf Skulestad.*
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe.*
4. Retskrivningsregler.—*Aars og Hofgaard.*
5. Norsk Stil.—*Tönnesen.*
6. Buehler's English Grammar. (Last edition, pages 1-94.)
7. Compendium of American Methodism.—*Abel Stevens.*

Til Läsning:

1. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (Sidste Udgave.)
2. En skreven Oversigt over Levisons Menneskelegemet.

§ 2. FÖRSTE AAR

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen.* (1ste Trediedel.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher.* (Sider 1-162.)

4. The Work of the Preacher.—*Jowett.*
5. Buehler's English Grammar. (Pages 94-295.)
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. (Sidste Udgave.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*
8. Skreven Prädiken om Forsoningen.

Til Läsning:

1. The Old Testament Problem.—*Orr.*
2. The Teaching of Citizenship.—*Hughes.*

§ 3. ANDET AAR

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 147-404.)
2. Preparation and Delivery of Sermons.—*Broadus.*
3. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen.* (2den Trediedel.)
4. Logik.—*Jevon.*
5. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher.* (Sider 163-286.)
6. Själe og Tänkeläre.—*Nielsen.*
7. Etik.—*Martensen.* (Sider 1-75.)
8. Leading Facts of American History.—*Montgomery.*
9. Skreven Prädiken om Retfärdiggjörelsen.

Til Läsning:

1. History of Methodism.—*Stevens.* (1st Vol.)
2. Exercises in English Form and Diction.—*Fansler and Fansler.*

§ 4. TREDIE AAR

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen.* (3die Trediedel.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher.* (Sider 287-423.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip.* (7de Udgave.)
5. Psychology (Briefer Course).—*James.* (1st Half.)
6. Etik.—*Martensen.* (Sider 76-300.)
7. Socialism and the Social Movement.—*Sombart.*
8. Organizing and Building of the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut.*
9. Skreven Prädiken om Gjenfödelsen.

Til Läsning:

1. Ildtungen.—*Arthur.*
2. History of Methodism.—*Stevens.* (2nd Vol.)

§ 5. Fjerde Aar

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Sider 646-781.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson.*
3. Psychology (Briefer Course).—*James.* (2nd Half.)
4. Etik.—*Martensen.* (Sider 391-590.)
5. Den Hellige Skrifts Historie.—*Olafsen.*
6. The Church School.—*Athorn.*
7. Kirkehistorie.—*Fisher.* (Sider 423-664.)
8. Skreven Prædiken om Helliggjörelsen.

Til Läsning:

1. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing.*
2. History of Methodism.—*Stevens.* (3rd Vol.)

¶ 607. For Lokaldiakoners Ordination

1. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*
2. Kirkehistorie (Ledetraad).—*Fr. Nielsen.*
3. Norges og Nordens Historie.—*Jens Raabe.*
4. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard.*
5. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill and Downey.*
6. Lærebog i Bibelhistorie.—*Asperheim.*
7. Skreven Prædiken om Daaben.

¶ 608. For Lokalældstes Ordination

1. Præsten Hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon.*
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Paulsen.*
3. Literaturhistorie.—*Broch og Seip.*
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson.*
5. Skreven Prædiken om Nadværen.

FOR THE NORWAY CONFERENCE

¶ 609. Studiekursus for Prædikanter i Norges Konference

§ 1. Optagelse paa Prøve

1. Grammatik.—*Hofgaard Alls.*
2. Geografi.—*Norris.* (For Amts og Folkeskoler.)

3. Norges Historie.—*Petersen.*
4. Nordens Historie.—*Eriksen.*
5. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood.*
6. Sammendrag af Theologien.—*Binney.*

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 1-146.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader.* (Oldtiden.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Nullematore Oldtiden.)
4. Pastoraltheologi.—*Vinet.*
5. Bibelnöglen.—*Jensen-Fogh.*
6. Methodistkirkens Disciplin. 1916. (I-V Del.)
7. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*

§ 3. II AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 147-404.)
2. Homiletik.—*Burt.*
3. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader.* (Middelalderen.)
4. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Middelalderen.)
5. Logik.—*Jevons.*
6. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den alm Del.)
7. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1916. (VI-VIII Del.)
8. Skreven Prædiken om Retfärdiggjörelsen.

§ 4. III AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 405-645.)
2. Verdenshistorie.—*Rader.* (Den nyere Tid.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Den nyere Tid.)
4. Literaturhistorie.—*Brock og Seip.*
5. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 1-63.)
6. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den Specielle Del, I Bind.)
7. Pastoren Hjeme og i Kirken—*Spurgeon.*
8. Skreven Prædiken om Helliggjörelsen.

§ 5. IV AARSKLASSE

1. Theologi.—*Wakefield.* (Side 645-780.)
2. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson.*
3. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 64-96.)

4. Ethik.—*Martensen.* (Den Specielle Del, II Bind.)
5. Modern Sunday School.—*Vincent.*
6. Evangeliets Seiersgang.—*Ussing.*
7. Skreven Afhandling om Inspirationen.

¶ 610 For Lokalprædikanter

For at blive bemyndiget som lokalprädikant kræves almindelig god folkeskolekundskal foruden eksamen "i lären og disciplinen."

§ 1. I Aarsklasse

1. Theologi.—*Binney.* (Förste Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1916. (I-III Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Oldtiden.)

§ 2. II Aarsklasse

1. Theologi.—*Binney.* (Anden Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1916. (IV-VI Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Middelalderen.)
4. Skreven Afhandling om Daaben.

§ 3. III Aarsklasse

1. Bibelnöglen.—*Jensen-Fogh.* (Förste Halvdel.)
2. Methodistkirkens Disciplin, 1916. (VII-VIII Del.)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Den nyere Tid.)

§ 4. IV Aarsklasse

1. Bibelnöglen.—*Jenson-Fogh.* (Anden Halvdel.)
2. Methodismens Historie.—*Smith and Mahood.*
3. Kristelig Erfaring.—*Merrill.*
4. Skreven Afhandling om Naadens orden.

¶ 611. For Diakonordination

1. Förste og andet Aars Studie.
2. Disciplinens Haandbog.—*Merrill.*
3. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 1-63.)

¶ 612. For Ældsteordination

1. Tredie og fjerde Aars Studie.
2. Helliggjörelsen.—*Fletcher.*
3. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Fr. Nielsen.* (Side 34-96.)

¶ 613. DANISH COURSES

Eksamensraadet vil, hvor det ikke er gjort, anvise hvilke Böger, og hvor stort et Afsnit i de enkelte Böger. Kandidaterne skal lære.—Der gives et kort skriftligt Resumè of de til Læsning anviste Böger.

¶ 614 Rejseprædikanter

§ 1. OPTAGELSE PAA PRÖVE

1. Dansk Sproglære.
2. Geografi.
3. Samfundslære.
4. Verdenshistorie.
5. Kirkehistorie.
6. Metodismen.—*Gaarde en fl.*
7. Sammendrag af Teologien.—*Binney.*
8. Katekisme.
9. Disciplin. (Nyeste Udgave.)
10. Skreven Selvbiografi.

Læsning:

1. Jesu Liv.—*Farrar.*
2. Metodistkirken: Danmark.—*Gaarde.*

§ 2. I AARSKLASSE

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield.* (S. 1-146.)
2. Bibelsk Arkæologi. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen.*)
3. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann.* (I.)
4. Pastoralteologi.—*Vinet.*
5. Indledning til det gl. Test. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen.*)

6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil opgives Tekst of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Wesley's Prädikener.
2. Helliggörelsen.—*Fletcher.*
3. Verdens Evangelisation.—*Mott.*
4. Forkyndelsen.—*J. J. Jansen.*

§ 3. II Aarsklasse

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield.* (S. 147-404.)
2. Kirkehistorie.—*Bergmann.* (II.)
3. Indledning til det nye Test. (Bibelhaandbogen. *H. P. Hansen.*)
4. Sjæle og Tænkelære.—*Nielsen.*
5. Literaturhistorie.
6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil Tekst opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar.* (I.)
2. Hvad er Kristendom?—*L. C. Petersen.*
3. Sociale Spørgsmaal.—*Schach.*

§ 4. III Aarsklasse

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield.* (S. 405-645.)
2. Etik.—*Martensen.* (S. 1-300.)
3. Logik.—*Jevons.*
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Simpson.*
5. Exsegese efter Wesley's Notes on the New Testament. (Mundtlig.)
6. Skreven Prædiken, hvortil Tekst opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Apostlen Paulus.—*Farrar.* (II.)
2. Evangeliets Sejrsgang.—*Ussing.*
3. Præsten hjemme og i Kirken.—*Spurgeon.*

§ 5. IV Aarsklasse

1. Teologi.—*Wakefield.* (S. 646-780.)

2. Etik.—*Martensen.* (S. 301-590.)
3. History of American Methodism.—*Stevens.*
4. Eksegese efter Godet: Johannes Evangelism. (Mundtlig.)
5. Skreven Prædiken. Emnet opgives of Eksamensraadet.

Læsning:

1. Den Sociale Udvikling.—*Kidd.*
2. Pastoral Evangelism.—*Goodell.*
3. Haandbog for Söndagskole-Arbeide.—*With.*

¶ 615. Lokalprædikanter

§ 1. LOKALPRÆDIKANTBEMYNDIGELSE

1. Katekisme.
2. Sammendrag of Teologien.—*Binney.*
3. Hvad er Kristendom?—*L. C. Petersen.*
4. Haandsrækning til en Lokalprædikant.
5. Metodismen.—*Gaarde en. fl.*
6. Disciplinen I-VI Del.—Nyeste Udgave.

Læsning:

1. Metodistkirken: Danmark.—*Gaarde.*

2. KURSUS FOR LOKAL-DIAKONERS OG LOKAL-ÖLDSTE

Lokalprædikanter der önsker Ordination, vil faa anvist Studieplan samt Böger af Eksamensraadet.

SWEDISH COURSES

FOR CONFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES

¶ 616. Resepredikanter

§ 1. INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Katekesen.—*Nast.*
2. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger.*
3. Kyrkoordningen, 1916.

4. Svensk språklära. (Kap. I-XI.)—*Beckman.*
5. Geografi.—*Karlson.*
6. Allmän historia.—*Zachrisson.*
7. Biblical Geography and History.—*Kent.*
8. English Grammar.—*Longman.*

Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Första bandet.)
2. The Pastor-Preacher.—*Quayle.*
3. Det muntliga föredragets konst.—*Swahn.*

§ 2. FÖRSTA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry.* (Part I.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—Hammerich.
3. Life of Wesley.—*Winchester.*
4. Manual of Teacher Training, Part II.—*Barclay.*
5. Svensk språklära. (Kap. XII-XIV.)—*Beckman.*
6. Avhandling: Kristendomen och den sociala frågan.

Böcker till läsning:

1. Wesleys predikningar. (Andra bandet.)
2. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch.*
3. The Meaning of Prayer.—*Fosdick.*

§ 3. ANDRA ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry.* (Part II.)
2. Kyrkohistoria.—*Hammerich.* (Del. II.)
3. American History.—*James and Sanford.*
4. The Making of the Sermon.—*Pattison.*
5. The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer.*
6. Avhandling: *Nattvarden.*

Böcker till läsning:

1. Metodistkyrkans historia.—*Porter.*
2. Studies in Christianity.—*Bowne.*
3. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRET

1. Biblical Dogmatics.—*Terry.* (Part III.)
2. Beacon Lights of Prophecy.—*Knudson.*

3. Själslivet.—*Almquist.*
4. The Religious Development of the Child.—*Weaver.*
5. Avhandling: Försoningen.

Böcker till läsning:

1. The Building of the Church.—*Jefferson.*
2. Religionsvetenskapen.—*Tiele.*
3. Vittra skrifter.—*Vikner.*

§ 5. Fjärde Året

1. The Christian Faith.—*Curtis.*
2. Everyday Ethics.—*Cabot.*
3. The Minister as Shepherd.—*Jefferson.*
4. The Way to Win.—*Fisher.*
5. Social Aspects of Missions.—*Faunce.*
6. Avhandling: Helgelsen.
7. English Essay: Swedish Methodism in America

Böcker till läsning:

1. St. Paul the Traveler and Roman Citizen.—*Ramsey.*
2. The Bible: Its Origin and Nature.—*Dods.*
3. Jesu liv.—*Farrar.*
4. Jerusalem.—*Lagerlöv.*

¶ 617. Lokalpredikanter

För erhållande och förnyande af fullmakt skall lokalpredikanten årligen examineras, till dess han efter fyra års förlopp stått godkänd examen uti följande ämnen:

1. M. E. Kyrkans katekes.
2. Kyrkoordningen. 1916. (Delad pä 4 år.)
3. Biblisk historia.
4. Lärobok i bibelkunskap.—*Kejser.*
5. Kyrkohistoria—*Lögren.* (å Delad på 3 är.)

¶ 618. För ordinering till diakon

1. Katekes.—*Nast.*
2. Anvisning till Bibelkännedom.—*Welander.*
3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén.*
4. Afhandling: Försoningen.

¶ 619. För ordinering till Aldste

1. M. E. Kyrkans trosbekännelse.—*Sulzberger.*
2. Öfversikt af de bibliska böckerna.—*Brodén.*
3. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*Fletcher.*
4. Doctrinal Aspects of Christian Experience.—*Merrill.*
5. Afhandling: Bibelns inspiration.

FOR THE SWEDEN CONFERENCE

¶ 620. Resepredikanter

§ 1. FÖR INTRÄDE PÅ PROV

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes och Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse med förklaringar.—*A. Sulzberger.*
2. Kyrkoordningen, 1916.
3. Bibelkännedom.—*P. Welander och C. E. Benander.*
4. Bilder ur kyrkans historia.—*C. Fr. Lundin.*
5. Metodistkyrkans historia.—*J. Porter.*
6. Lärobok i fäderneslandets historia i sammandrag.—*Grimberg.*
7. Allmän historia.—*Pallin.*
8. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*D. A. Sundén.*
9. Räknebok.—*Larsson, Möller, Lundell.*
10. Naturkunnighet.—*Berg och Lindén.*
11. Skolgeografi, 1 kurs.—*Carlsson.*
12. Muntlig översättning av lättare engelsk täxt
13. En skriftligen avfattad teckning av den inträdessökandes eget liv.

Att läsa: Wesleys 53 predikningar.

§ 2. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran: Inledning.—*A. Sulzberger.*
2. A Popular History of Methodism.—*J. Telford.*
3. The Christian Pastorate.—*J. Kidder.*
4. Recruiting and Organizing the Sunday School.—*Hurlbut.*

5. Det avgörande ögonblicket i den kristna missionens historia.—*Mott.*
6. Novum Testamentum: Lukas Evang.
7. Avhandling om dopet.

Att läsa: Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher.*
A Plain Account of Christian Perfection.—*J. Wesley.*

§ 3. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 1.)
2. Själslära.—*William James.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 1.)
4. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt.*
5. Lärobok i Pedagogik.—*Sv. Lundqvist.*
6. Novum Testamentum: Apostlag.
7. Avhandling om nattvarden.

Att läsa: A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 1.)

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 2.)
2. Litteraturhistoria.—*Warburg.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 2.)
4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 1.)
5. Bibelstudiekurs.—*J. Rinman.* (Serie 1-4.)
6. Novum Testamentum: Matt. Evang.
7. Avhandling om försoningen.

Att läsa: A New History of Methodism.—*W. J. Townsend, H. B. Workman, G. Eayrs.* (Del. 2.)
Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*

§ 5. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Den kristna trosläran.—*A. Sulzberger.* (Del. 3.)
2. Hermeneutik.—*Edgren.*
3. The Preacher and his Sermon.—*Etter.* (Del. 3.)
4. Inledning till religionsvetenskapen.—*C. P. Tiele.* (Del. 2.)
5. Novum Testamentum: Galaterbrevet.

6. Avhandling om helgelsen.

Att läsa: The Church and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch.*

Filosofiens historia.—*S. G. Youngert.*

¶ 621 Lokalpredikanter

§ 1. FÖRSTA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans katekes.
2. Palestina, det heliga landet.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 1-2.)

Läsning:

Wesley och hans samtida.

Wesleys predikningar. (1-sta Bandet.)

Biblisk historia.

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i England.—*J. Porter.*

§ 2. ANDRA ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger.*
2. Seder och bruk de i Bibeln omtalade folken.
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 3-4.)

Läsning:

Wesleys predikningar. (2-dra Bandet.)

Metodistkyrkans historia: Verksamheten i Amerika.—*J. Porter.*

§ 4. TREDJE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Läran om frälsning från metodistisk ståndpunkt.—*C. A. Stenholm.*
2. Anvisning till Bibelnskännedom.—*P. Welander.*
3. Kyrkoordningen. (Del. 7-9.)

Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Till reformationen.—*N. Lovgren.*

Kristendomens saligbetssanningar.—*Luthardt.*

§ 5. FJÄRDE ÅRETS STUDIEKLASS

1. Studium av Pauli brev till Romarne.—*A. Clarke.*

2. Repetition av kyrkoordningen.

Läsning:

Kyrkohistoria: Nyare tiden.—*N. Lovgren.*
Lärobok i världshistorien.—*C. A. Zachrisson.*

¶ 622. For lokaldiakon-examen

1. Metodistkyrkans katekès.
2. Anvisning till Bibelnkännedom.—*P. Welander.*
3. Svensk språklära i sammandrag.—*Sundén.*
4. Avhandling om försoningen.

¶ 623. For lokalældste-examen

1. Kyrkoordningen.
2. Metodistkyrkans trosbekännelse.—*A. Sulzberger.*
3. Biblisk fornkunskap.—*Skarstedt.*
4. Kristlig fullkomlighet.—*J. Fletcher.*
5. Avhandling om helgelsen.

FINNISH COURSES

¶ **624.** Swedish-speaking preachers are permitted to choose corresponding books in Swedish, according to the direction of the Board of Examination.

¶ 625. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. Admission on Trial

Note.—Those who have graduated from one of our seminaries need only to pass an examination in the Discipline and Doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

1. The Doctrines of Methodist Church.
2. Introduction to the Bible.—*Welander or Waaranen.*
3. Discipline of Methodist Episcopal Church, 1916.
4. John Wesley.—*McDonald.*
5. History of Finland.—*Schyberkson or Forström.*

6. Stylistic.—*Sjöberg and Klingberg or Rapola.*
7. Elementary English.—*Afzelius or Braekke.*
8. Written Sermon on Call to Preach.

§ 2. First Year

1. Dogmatics. (Introduction and Part I.)—*Sulzberger.*
2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures.—*Schlatter.* (Old Testament.)
3. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder.*
4. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Lundén or Gummerus.*
5. General History. (Ancient Times.)—*Estlander.*
6. The Dissenter Law and Related Statutes.
7. Etymology of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén or Jännes.*
8. Etymology of the English Language.—*Afzelius or Braekke.*
9. Written Sermon on Conversion.

To be Read:

1. Wesley's Sermons. (1.)
2. Bible Studies. (Ancient Times.)—*Godet.*
3. Church History. (The Early Church.)—*Fabricius or Nissen-Gummerus.*
4. The Pastor at Home and in Church.—*Spurgeon.*

§ 3. Second Year

1. Dogmatics. (Part II.)—*Sulzberger.*
2. Introduction to the Holy Scriptures (New Test.)—*Schlatter.*
3. Primer in Homiletics.—*Edwards.*
4. General History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Estlander.*
5. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Lundén or Gummerus.*
6. History of Methodism. (*a*) Methodism in England. (*b*) Written Essay on John Wesley.—*Hurst.*
7. English. Translations from the Mother Tongue.—*Afzelius or Braekke.*

8. The Syntax of the Mother Tongue.—*Sundén or Setälä.*

9. Written Sermon on the Witness of the Spirit.

To be Read:

1. Wesley's Sermons, II.

2. Bible Studies. (New Test.)—*Godet.*

3. Church History. (Mediæval Times.)—*Fabricius or Nissen-Gummerus.*

4. A New Life of Christ. (Part I.)—*F. W. Farrar;* or Christian Evidences.—*Luthardt.*

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. Dogmatics. (Part III.)—*Sulzberger.*

2. Exegetical Studies in the Synoptical Gospels.—*Godet.*

3. General History. (Modern Times to the French Revolution.)—*Estlander.*

4. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Lundén or Gummerus.*

5. History of Methodism. (*a*) Methodism in America. (*b*) Written Essay on Bishop Asbury.—*Hurst.*

6. Psychological Principles of Education.—*Boxström,* or some other corresponding book in Swedish.

7. Ethics.—*W. Herrmans.*

8. Philosophy.—*Knut Barr.*

9. Written Sermon on Christian Perfection.

To be Read:

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Fabricius or Nissen-Gummerus.*

2. Pedagogy.—*E. Martig or Soininen.*

3. The Ethics of Jesus.—*E. Grim.*

4. Christian Perfection.—*Fletcher.*

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Exegetical Studies in the Epistles of Saint Paul—*Godet.*

2. Biblical Archæology.—*Skarstedt.*

3. General History. (Modern Times from the French Revolution.)—*Estlander.*

4. History of Methodism. (*a*) Methodist Missions; (*b*) Written Essay on the Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Hurst.*

5. History of Modern Missions.—*Henry Ussing.*

6. History of Philosophy.—*Wägner or W. Jerusalem.*

7. Introduction to Science of Religion.—*C. P. Tiele.*

8. History of Literature of the Mother Tongue.—*R. Steffen or Godenhjelm.*

9. Written Sermon on any Subject.

To be Read:

1. The Gospel of Saint John.—*Godet.*

2. General History of Literature.

¶ 626. Local Preachers

§ 1. First Year

1. Biblical History.—*Sundvall.*

2. Standard Catechism.

3. History of Methodism. (The Work in England.)—*Porter.*

4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts I-III.)

§ 2. Second Year

1. Bible Introduction.—*Vclander or Vaaranen.*

2. History of Methodism. (The Work in America.)—*Porter.*

3. A Short Grammar.—*Lagerblad or Setälä.*

4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts IV-VI.)

§ 3. Third Year

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney.*

2. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.)

3. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon.* (Vol. I, or some other.)

4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts VII-IX.)

5. Church History. (Early Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. II.)
2. Pastoral Theology.—*Spurgeon.* (Vol. II, or some other.)
3. Church History. (Mediæval Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*

¶ 627. Local Deacons

The entire Course for Local Preachers.

¶ 628. Local Elders

1. Church History. (Modern Church.)—*Vaaranen or Lundén.*
2. History of Finland.—*Forström.*
3. General History.—*Palin.*
4. Life of Christ.—*Stalker.*
5. Life of Paul.—*Stalker.*

NOTE.—This course is to be read in four years.

RUSSIAN COURSES

¶ 629. Traveling Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION ON TRIAL

1. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff.*
2. History of Russia.—*Platonoff.*
3. Geography.—*Kruber-Grigorieff.*
4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts I-IV.)
5. Standard Catechism.
6. Life of Wesley.—*Telford.*
7. Written Sermon on the Call to Preach.

To be Read:

1. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley.*

2. Life of Christ.—*Farrar.*
3. Handbook for Probationers.—*Burt.*

§ 2. FIRST YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts I and II.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Ancient.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz.*
4. Russian Rhetoric.—*Abramoff.*
5. Homiletics.—*Burt.*
6. Discipline, 1916. (Parts V-IX.)
7. Written Sermon on the Atonement.

To be Read:

1. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley.*
2. How to Speak in Public.—*Spurgeon.*
3. Science and the Bible.—*Bettex.*

§ 3. SECOND YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Parts III and IV.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Mediæval.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz.*
4. History of Church.—*Kurtz.*
5. History of Russian Literature. (Part I.)—*Nezelenoff.*
6. Logic.—*Chelpanoff.*
7. Written Sermon on Justification by Faith.

To be Read:

1. Wesley's Journal.
2. The Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur.*
3. Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott.*

§ 4. THIRD YEAR

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part V.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of World. (Modern.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. History of Russian Literature. (Part II.)—*Nezelenoff.*

4. Psychology.—*Nechajeff.*
5. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff.*
6. Ethics.—*Paulus.*
7. English or German Grammar.—*Gaspey-Sauer.*
8. Written Sermon on Regeneration or Sanctification.

To be Read:

1. Life of Francis Asbury.—*Mains.*
2. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler.*
3. Pilgrim's Progress.—*Bunyan.*

§ 5. Fourth Year

1. System of Christian Doctrine. (Part VI.)—*Schneider.*
2. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff.*
3. History of Russian Orthodox Church.—*Smirnoff.*
4. History of Philosophy.—*Paulsen.*
5. Political Economy.—*Eschupoff.*
6. Sociology.—*Kovalevsky.*
7. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If candidate is other than Russian.)
8. Written Sermon on the Sacraments.

To be Read:

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt.*
2. The Russian Sects.—*Margaritoff.*
3. Europe and Methodism.—*Burt.*

¶ 630. Local Preachers

§ 1. First Year

1. Bible History. (Part I.)—*Kurtz.*
2. Standard Catechism.
3. History of Methodism. (Part I.)—*Bulgakoff.*
4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts I-IV.)

§ 2. Second Year

1. Bible History. (Part II.)—*Kurtz.*
2. Russian Grammar.—*Bogdanoff.*
3. History of Methodism. (Part II.)—*Bulgakoff.*
4. Discipline, 1916. (Parts V-IX.)

§ 3. THIRD YEAR

1. Theological Compend.—*Binney.*
2. Sermons. (Vol. I.)—*Wesley.*
3. Homiletics.—*Burt.*
4. Life of Wesley.—*Telford.*

§ 4. FOURTH YEAR

1. Church History.—*Kurtz.*
2. History of World. (Abridged.)—*Karjaeff.*
3. Grammar of Native Tongue. (If condidate is other than Russian.)
4. Sermons. (Vol. II.)—*Wesley.*

ITALIAN COURSES

¶ 631. Predicatori Itineranti in Italia

N. B.—1. La cultura generale che si richiede usualmente ai candidati corrisponde a quella necessaria per ottenere la patente di Maestro Elementare Superiore o l'ammissione all' Università.

2. Per l'intiero corso lo studente dovrà presentare delle dichiarazioni scritte che affermino se egli abbia letto o no attentamente tutti i libri assegnati per lettura, e presenterà un riassunto di qualche capitolo o di qualch' una delle questioni contenute in ciascun libro che antecedentemente gli esaminatori sceglieranno ed annunzieranno a mezzo dei verbali della Conferenza od altrimenti.

§ 1. AMMISSIONE SOTTO PROVA

1. Compendio di Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst.* (Traduz. Burt.)
2. Teologia Dommatica.—*Boron.*
3. Discipline della Chiésa Metodista Episcopale, 1916.
4. Vita di Giovanni Wesley (Lelièvre) e Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott.*
5. Il contenuto della Bibbia. (Studio diretto.)
6. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.
7. Omiletica.—*Burt.*
8. Relazione scritta della propria conversione e chiamata al Ministerio.

§ 2. ANNO PRIMO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1°, Parte 1ª.)—*Gauthier.*
2. Storia Eccesiastica. (1° Periodo: dal 1° al 4° secolo.) Testo: Historie du Christianism, par *Jules Guidraux.* (Genève-Jeheber, Ed.)
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Impero Romano fino a Costantino.)
4. La Palestina ai tempi di Cristo.—*Hapfer.*
5. Omileticá.—*Vinet.*
6. Storia delle Religioni. (Chautepic de la Saussaye.)
7. Sermone scritto.

§ 3. ANNO SECONDO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 1°, Parte 2ª.)—*Gauthier.*
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (2° Periodo: dal Sec. IV all' VIII.)—*Guidraux.*
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Medio Evo, Vol. III.)
4. Teologia Pastorale.—*Vinet.*
5. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento.—*Godet.* (Vol. II, Evangelî Sinottici.)
6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere:

Esquisse d' une philosophie de la Religion.—*Sabatier.*

§ 4. ANNO TERZO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2°, Parte 1ª.—*Gauthier.*
2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (3° Periodo: dal Sec. VIII al XVI.)—*Guidrauz.*
3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Medio Evo, Vol. IV.)
4. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento. (Dal IV Evangelo all'Apocalisse, escluse le Epistole Paoline.)—*Godet.* (2° Vol. Studî Biblici.)
5. Sermone scritto.

§ 5. ANNO QUARTO

1. Introduzione all'Antico Testamento. (Libro 2°, Parte 2a.)—*Gauthier.*

2. Storia Ecclesiastica. (4o Periodo: dal Sec. XVI al XX.)—*Guidraux.*

3. Storia civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Tempi moderni, Vol. V.)

4. Introduzione al Nuovo Testamento. (Epistole Paoline e Vita di Paolo.)—*Godet.*

5. Storia dei Dommi.—*Harnack.* (Précis d'Historia des Dogmes."—*Fischbacher.*)

6. Sermone scritto.

Da leggere:

Epitome di filosofia italica.—*Caporali.*

¶ 632. Studii Preliminari peri Ministers Italiani in America

N. B.—Per Studii preliminari richiesti, vedi DISCIPLINA, ultima edizione il *Nota Bene*, articolo 598.

Si insistera' in modo speciale sulle seguenti materie: Elementi di Grammatica Italiana, di Rettorica, di Letteratura, di Filosofia, di Scienze Fisiche e Naturali, di Storia Americana, ed una conoscenza pratica della lingua Inglese.

§ 1. CORSO PRELIMINARE

1. Grammatica Italiana.—*Fornaciari.*

2. Rettorica (elementi).—*Fornaciari.*

3. Letteratura (elementi.)—*Adolfo Bartoli.*

4. Filosofia (elementi).—*Augusto Conti e Vincenzo Martini.*

5. Scienze Fisiche e Naturali.—a. *A. Gavanna.* b. *Voli e Tanfani.* c. *Geikie* (traduz. Stoppani).

6. Storia Orientale Greca. *C. Rinaudo.*

7. Diritti e Doveri dell'uomo. *G. Mazzini.*

8. I Promessi Sposi.—*A. Manzoni.*

9. Componimento Italiano.—(candidato.)

10. Saggio Italiano-Inglese e Inglese-Italiano (candidato).

11. American History.—*Montgomery.*

12. Speech on Conciliation.—*Burke.*

Libri da leggere:

1. Le mie prigioni.—*Pellico.*
2. Vita moderna degl' Italiani.—*Mosso.*
3. La Riforma dell'Educazione.—*A. Mosso.*
4. Roma Papale.—*De Sanctis.*
5. Sermoni di Wesley, Traduz. Italiana.

¶ 633. Predicatori Itinerante in America

§ 1. AMMISSIONE

1. Compendio di Teologia.—*Binney-Steele.* (Trad. Ital.)
2. Disciplina M. E.—(ultima Edizione).
3. Vita di G. Wesley.—*Lelievre.* (Trad. Sciarelli.)
4. Dottrine della Chiesa M. E.—*Sulzberger.* (Trad. Polsinelli.)
5. Il Compagno d.Bibbia.—*S. Beruatto.*
6. Perfezione Cristiana.—*Wesley.* (Trad. Italiana.)
7. Omiletica.—*William Burt.*
8. Relazione scritta della propria a Conversione e Chiamata al Ministero.

Da leggere:

1. Vita di Savonarola, 2 Vol.—*P. Villari.*
2. La lingua di Fuoco.—*Arthur.*
3. Il Dovere.—*Smiles.*
4. L'Idioma gentile.—*E. De Amicis.*
5. Rinascita.—*S. McGerald.*

§ 2. PRIMO ANNO

Introduzione A. T.—*Revel.* (In Italiano.)
Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst.* (Trad. Burt.)
Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo.* Vol. II.
Omiletica.—*Vinet.* (Trad. Inglse.)
Geografia Biblica.—*Pons.* (In Italiano.)
Il Cristianesimo e le Chiese Cristiane.—*Professor G. Bartoli.*

La prima Pagina della Bibbia.—*Fr. Bettex.* Traduz. di P. P.).

Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Sermoni ed Allocuzioni.—*William Burt.*
2. Mens sana in corpore sano.—*A. Mosso.*
3. Il Risparmio.—*Smiles.*
4. Christianity and the Social Crisis.—*Rauschenbusch.*
5. System of Christian Doctrine.—*Sheldon.*
6. Digest of Methodist Law.—*Merrill-Downey.*

§ 3. SECONDO ANNO

1. Evidenze del Cristianesimo.—*McIlvaine.* (In Italiano.)
2. Storia Ecclesistica.—*Fisher.*
3. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Medio Evo.).
4. Teologia Pastorale.—*Vinet.* (In Inglese.) The Pastor Preacher, Quayle.
5. Discorsi Sinottici del Nuovo Testamento.—*Fraser.* (Trad. Sciarelli).
6. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Gli Eroi.—*Carlyle.*
2. Sul Limitare.—*G. Pascoli.*
3. Vita e lavoro.—*Smiles.*
4. Scuola e carattere.—*Fr. W. Forster.* (Trad. Italiana.)
5. Jesus Christ and the Social Question.—*Peabody.*

§ 4. TERZO ANNO

1. Introduz. A. T. Divine Library of the O. T.—*Fitzpatrick.*
2. Testimonii di Cristo.—*Backhouse-Taylor.*
3. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo.* Vol. IV.
4. Introduz. N. T.—*Godet.* (Trad. Inglese.)
5. Fatti Apostolici.—*G. Luzzi.*
6. Epist. S. Paolo ai Romani.—*Whedon.*

7. I Miracoli di G. C.—*Trench.* (Trad. Meille.)
8. One Thousand Questions on Methodism.—*Wheeler.*
9. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Il Carattere.—*Smiles.*
2. I Martiri del Libero Pensiero.
3. Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*
4. The American Commonwealth.—*Bryce.*

§ 5. Quarto Anno

1. Storia Primitiva.—*Backhouse-Taylor.*
2. Storia Letteraria A. T.—*Revel.*
3. Il Papa.—*Labanca.*
4. Storia Civile.—*Rinaudo.* (Tempi Moderni.)
5. Introduz. N. T.—*Campbell Morgan.*
6. Saint Paul the Traveler, Roman Citizen.—*Ramsay.*
7. Hermeneutics.—*Terry.*
8. Storia d. Riforma in Italia.—*Comba.*
9. Filosofia d. Salvazione.—*Walker.*
10. Sermone scritto. (Da portarsi alla Conf.)

Da leggere:

1. Il bel Paese.—*Stoppani.*
2. Cristianesimo e lotta di Classe.—*Fr. W. Forster.* (Trad. Italiana.)
3. I Nostri Protestanti.—*Comba.*
4. Lectures on Preaching.—*Brooks.*

¶ 634. Predicatori Locali

§ 1. Anno Primo

1. Nuovo Testamento: nozioni dirette e generali.
2. Storia del Metodismo.—*Piggott.*
3. Catechismo della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.
4. Compendio di Teologia.—*Binney e Steele.*
5. Lingua di Fuoco.—*Arthur.*
6. Relazione della propria conversione.

§ 2. ANNO SECONDO

1. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale. (Dalla Ia alla VIa Parte.)
2. Storia Moderna.—*Bragagnolo.*
3. Vita di Giovanni Wesley.—*Lelièvre.*
4. Storia Ecclesiastica.—*Hurst.* Traduz. Burt.)
5. Chiesa Primitiva.—*Blackhouse e Taylor.*
6. Antico Testamento. (Nozioni dirette e generali.)
7. Sermone scritto.

§ 3. ANNO TERZO

1. Articoli di fede e Dottrine della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale.—*Polsinelli.*
2. Disciplina della Chiesa Metodista Episcopale. (Dalla VI Parte alla fine.)
3. Storia della Riforma in Italia.—*Comba.*
4. I testimoni di Cristo.—*Blackhouse e Taylor.*
5. I sermoni di Giovanni Wesley.
6. Sermone scritto.

§ 4. ANNO QUARTO

1. Le verità fondamentali del Cristianesimo.—*Luthardt.*
2. Il piccolo compagno della Bibbia.—*Jahier.*
3. Omiletica.—*Burt.*
4. Del Metodismo Episcopale.—*Ferreri.*
5. Sermone scritto.

COURSE OF STUDY FOR SPANISH-SPEAKING PREACHERS

¶ 635. Predicadores Itinerantes

§ 1. Para Admision a Prueba

1. Educación elefental:—Gramática, Aritmética, Geografía, Historia Patria, e Historio de las Américas.—*Estévanez.*

2. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1916. (Parte I.)

3. Catecismo Primario de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal y de la Iglesia Metodista Episcopal del Sur.

4. Relación escrita de la conversión del candidato y de su vocación al ministerio.

§ 2. Primer Año

1. Biblia.) Del Génesis al Segundo Libro de los Reyes, inclusive.

2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst.* (Parte Primera.)

3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1916. (Partes II, III, y IV.)

4. Juan Wesley, su Vida y su Obra.—*Lelievre.*

5. Cómo obtener la Plenitud del Poder?—*Torrey.*

6. El Hombre de Galilea.—*Haygood.*

7. Evidencias Cristianas.—*Mair.*

8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo I.)

1. Los Evangelios Explicados, Mateo.—*Ryle.*

3. Vida de Cristo.—*Stalker.*

4. El Deber.—*Smiles.*

§ 3. Segundo Año

1. Biblia. De Esdras a Eclesiastes, inclusive.

2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst.* (Segunda Parte.)

3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1912. (Partes V, VI, y VII.)
4. Lógica.—*Mill.*
5. Homilética. La Predicación.—*Neely.*
6. La Ley Natural en el Mundo Espiritual.—*Drummond.*
7. Vida de San Pablo.—*Stalker.*
8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Sermones de Juan Wesley. (Tomo II.)
2. Los Evangelios Explicados, Marcos.—*Ryle.*
3. El Carácter.—*Smiles.*
4. Problemas y Métodas para le Escuela Dominical.—*Roads.*

§ 4. TERCER AÑO

1. Biblia. Profetas Mayores y Menores.
2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst.* (Tercera Parte.)
3. Disciplina de la Iglesia, 1916. (Partes VIII, y IX.)
4. Manual de Doctrina Cristiana.—*Banks.*
5. Psicologia Pedagógica.—*Osuna.*
6. El Domingo, el Verdadero Sabat.—*Gamble.*
7. El Arte de Hablar y Escribir en Veinte Lecciones.—*Toro y Gomez.*
8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Los Evangelios Explicados, Lucas.—*Ryle.*
2. La Inteligencia.—*Taine.*
3. Vida y Trabajo.—*Smiles.*
4. El Bautismo.—Discusión.—*Baez-Chevarens.*

§ 5. CUARTO AÑO

1. Biblia. De la Epistola de los Romanos al fin del N. T.
2. Historia de la Iglesia.—*Hurst.* (Cuarta Parte.)
3. Historia de la Reformación.—*Fisher.*

4. La Religión y las Ciencias Naturales.—*Bettex.*
5. Las Ensenanzas Sociales y Eticas de Jesús.— *Matthews.*
6. Historia Universal.—*Ducoudray.*
7. La Palabra en Público.—Traducción de *Jesús Urueta.*
8. Sermon escrito.

Libros para leer:

1. Los Evangelios Explicados. Juan.—*Ryle.*
2. Trabajo Hábil Para el Maestro.—*Hendrix.*
3. La Manera de Conducir a los Hombres a Cristo.—*Torrey.*
4. Christus Auctor.—*Candler.*
5. La Salvación Personal.—*Tillett.*

The Course of Study for Local Preachers in Spanish to remain the same as it is now in the Discipline of 1912.

¶ 636. BULGARIAN COURSE

§ 1. Reception on Trial

1. Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
2. Bible History. (New Testament.)—*South.*
3. Life of Wesley.—*Lelievre.* (First half of the book.)
4. Ancient History.—*Dermancheff.*
5. Bulgarian History.—*Bobcheff.*
6. Bulgarian Syntax.—*Mercheff.*
7. Bulgarian Orthography.—*Constantinoff.*
8. Catechism Number 2.
9. A short written statement of the Christian experience of the candidate and his call to preach the gospel.

§ 2. First Year

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt.* (Part I.)
2. Life of Wesley.—*Lelievre.* (Last half of the book.)
3. History of the Middle Ages.—*Dermancheff.*
4. Theory of Prose.—*Angeloff.*

5. Binney's Compend.
6. Evidences of Christianity. (First half of the book.)
7. Homiletics.—*Burt.*
8. A written sermon on the Fall of Man, or on the Atonement.

To be read.

1. Imago Christi.—*Stalker.*
2. Natural Theology.—*Tsanoff.*

§ 3. Second Year

1. Apologetics.—*Luthardt.* (Part II.)
2. Exegesis.—The Gospel of Luke.—*Riggs.*
3. Evidences of Christianity. (Second half of the book.)
4. Life of Christ.—*Stalker.*
5. Modern History.—*Dermancheff.*
6. Theory of Poetry.—*Angeloff.*
7. History of Bulgarian Literature.—*Mircheff.*
8. The Person of Christ.—*Schaff.*
9. A written sermon on Justification by Faith.

To be Read:

Is the Bible the True Word of God?—*Holway.*

§ 4. Third Year

1. Psychology.—*Plechanoff.*
2. Christian Baptism.—*Merrill.*
3. Ethics.—*Janet.*
4. Contemporaneous History.—*Agura.*
5. Church History.—*Gieseler.* (First half of the book.)
6. Logic.—*Plechanoff.* (First half of the book.)
7. Life of Saint Paul.—*Stalker.*
8. How to Bring Souls to Christ.—*Torrey.*
9. Exegesis. Gospel of John.—*Riggs.*
10. A written sermon on Regeneration, or on Sanctification.

§ 5. FOURTH YEAR

1. Logic.—*Plechanoff.* (Last half of the book.)
2. Church History.—*Giesler.* (Last half of the book.)
3. History of Civilization.—*Guizot.*
4. Fundamental Truths of the Christian Faith.
5. Pastoral Theology.—*Kidder.*
6. Exegesis: Epistle to the Hebrews.—*Riggs.*
7. Exegesis: Epistle to the Romans.—*Riggs.*
8. Tongue of Fire.—*Arthur.*

To be Read:

1. Valor.—*Wagner.*
2. Heredity.—*Bradford.*

FRENCH COURSE

¶ 637. Program of Studies for French Preachers

§ 1. ADMISSION SOUS EPREUVE

1. Catechisme (y compris, les Doctrines et Principes de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale.)
2. Discipline de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale, 1916.
3. Histoire Biblique.—Jéhovah.—*Westphal.*
4. Histoire de l'Église Metodiste Episcopale.—*Ferreri.* (Traduction, *Lieure.*)
5. Doctrine, Chrétienne.—*Court,* Exposé de la Religion Chrétienne.
6. Sermon écrit.

A Lire:

1. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.)
2. Vie de Wesley.—*Lelièvre.*
3. La Perfection Chrétienne.—*Wesley.* (Traduction Française.)
4. Discourses.—*Finney.*
5. La Langue de Feu.—*Arthur.* (Traduction Française.)
6. Les Pioniers Americans.—*Lelièvre.*

§ 2. PREMIÈRE ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique: Ancien Testament.—*Gautier.* (Vol. I.)
2. Homiletique. Traité d'Homiletique.—*Burt.*
3. Philosophie. Histoire de la Philosophie.—*Weber.*
4. Histoire. Cours Complet d'Histoire.—*Malet.* (Vol. I, Antiquité.)
5. Literature Française.—*Doumic.*
6. Theologie. Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen.* (Traduction *Ducros*, 1e. moitie.)

A Lire:

1. La Vie de Jésus.—*Pressensé.*
2. Homiletique.—*Vinet.*
3. La Vie de Saint François d'Assise.—*Paul Sabatier.*
4. Palestine.—*Bovet.*
5. Heure decisive des Missions modernes.—*Mott.* (Traduction Française.)

§ 3. DEUXIÈME ANNÉE

1. Introduction Biblique: Ancien Testament.—*Gautier.* (Vol. II.)
2. Histoire. Cours Complet.—*Malet.* (Vol. II.)
3. Philosophie, Cours Elementaire.—*Boirac.* (Pp. 1 à 312.)
4. Histoire de l'Église.
5. Theologie Dogmatique Chrétienne.—*Martensen.* (2e. moitie.)

A Lire:

1. Histoire des Protestants de France.—*Felice.*
2. De la Revocation à la Révolution.—*Lelièvre.*
3. Religion de l'Autorité et Religion de l'Esprit.—*A. Sabatier.*
4. Experience Religieuse.—*James.* (Traduction, *Abeuzit.*)
5. Pots Cassés.—*Begbie.* (Traduction Française.)

§ 4. TROISIÈME ANNÉE

1. Histoire: Cours Complet.—*Malet.* (Vol. III.)

2. Introduction Biblique: Nouveau Testament.—*Farques.*
3. Philosophie.—*Boirac.* (Pp. 312 à 516.)
4. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon.* (Vol. I.)
5. Exégèse Saint Jean.—*Godet.* (Dernier edition revisée par *Geo Godet.*).

A Lire:

1. Vers l'Église libre.—*Narfon.*
2. Le Christianisme Social.—*Fallot.*
3. La Philosophie de la Croix.—*Gindraux.*
4. Histoire de la Bible en France.—*Lortsch.*
5. La Papauté.—*Doellinger.*

§ 5. QUATRIÈME ANNÉE

1. Histoire. Cours Complet.—*Malet.* (Vol. IV.)
2. Apologetique. Mission historique de Jésus.—*Monnier.*
3. Theologie Moral.—*Bovon.* (Vol. II.)
4. Exégèse.—Saint Paul.—*A. Sabatier.*
5. Philosophie. Philosophie de la Religion.—*Sabatier.*

A Lire:

1. L'Oeuvre du Saint Esprit.—*Tophel.*
2. Valeur de l'Experience religieuse.—*Bois.*
3. Apologetique du Christianisme.—*Berthoud.*
4. Le Christ et la pensée moderne.—*Gindraux.*
5. Theologie Catholique.

¶ 638. OTHER COURSES

For Courses presented in Ojibway, and in the languages of Africa, India, Malaysia, China, Japan, and Korea, see the Year Books of Annual Conferences and Missions.

¶ 639. FOR DEACONESSES

[Prepared by The General Deaconess Board]

§ 1. The General Deaconess Board, at its discretion, may add to the studies for examination under the direction of Annual Conference Deaconess Boards, other topics of instruction, particularly such as relate to methods of work.

§ 2. Candidates preparing to be nurses will pursue the regular course of training for that purpose in a school connected with some good hospital, preferably one under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church, provided that in doing so studies in Bible, Church History and Discipline shall not be omitted.

§ 3. All candidates must pass an examination in the Elementary English Branches, such as is usually required to secure a common school teacher's certificate, or admission into secondary or high schools.

§4. Throughout the course the candidate shall present a written statement as to whether she has or has not given to each book a careful reading, and shall submit a syllabus of some chapter or subject previously announced by the Annual Conference Deaconess Board.

§ 5. FIRST YEAR

1. ENGLISH BIBLE AND BIBLICAL THEOLOGY—OR INTERPRETATION.

Outline History of Bible Times.
History of Biblical Literature or the Sacred Canon.
Study of Life of Bible Times, Customs, Literature, Education, etc.
The History of Biblical Interpretation and Rules for Interpretation.
Devotional Literature of the Hebrews—Psalms and Isolated Passages.
The Life of Christ.
Acts.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:

The Bible as Literature.—*Wood and Grant.*
The Life of Jesus Christ.—*Stalker.*
A History of New Testament Times in Palestine.—*Mathews.*
The Poets of the Old Testament.—*Gordon.*

The following are suggested as books to be read:

The Bible, Its Origin and Nature.—*Dods.*
The Life of Jesus of Nazareth.—*Rhees.*
The Jews Under Roman Rule.—*Morrison.*
The Apostolic Age.—*McGiffert.*
The New Testament in the Christian Church.—*Moore.*

2. HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND HER ACTIVITIES.

History of the Christian Church.
History of Foreign Missions.
History of Home Missions.
History of Social Service and Public Philanthropies.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:

History of the Christian Church.—*Fisher.*
The Missionary Enterprise.—*Bliss.*
The Care of Destitute, Neglected, and Delinquent Children.—*Folks.*
Introduction to the Study of the Dependent, Defective, and Delinquent Classes.—*Henderson.*

The following are suggested to be read:

Study of Christian Missions.—*Clarke.*
The Decisive Hour of Christian Missions.—*Mott.*
Punishment and Reformation.—*Wines.*

3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.
Religious Psychology.
Religious Pedagogy.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:
Fundamentals of Child Study.—*Kirkpatrick.*
Elements of Religious Pedagogy.—*Pattee.*

The following are suggested as books to read:
Education in Religion and Morals.—*Coe.*
Talks to Teachers on Psychology.—*James.*
Psychology of the Christian Soul.—*Steven.*
Rational Living.—*King.*
Twice Born Men.—*Begbie.*
Psychology of Orthodoxy.—*House.*
The Psychology of the Christian Life.—*Waterhouse.*

4. SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL SERVICE.
General Sociology.
Pathological Society and Remedial Agencies.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:
Elements of Sociology.—*Blackmar.*
American Charities.—*Warner.*
Socialism.—*Johns.*

5. EVANGELISM.
The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:
Everyday Evangelism.—*Leete.*

The following are suggested as books to be read:
Pastoral and Personal Evangelism.—*Goodell.*
The Fact of Conversion.—*Jackson.*

§ 6. SECOND YEAR

1. ENGLISH BIBLE AND BIBLICAL THEOLOGY.
   Prophecy and the Prophets.
   The Teaching of Jesus.
   Epistles and Teaching of Paul.
   General and Pastoral Epistles.
   Revelation.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:
   The Christian View of the Old Testament.—*Eiselen.*
   Records and Letters of the Apostolic Age.—*Burton.*
   Outline of Christian Theology.—*Clarke.*

The following are suggested as books to be read:
   Prophecy and the Prophets.—*Eiselen.*
   Paul, the Man, the Missionary, and the Teacher.—*Cone.*
   The Theology of the New Testament.—*Stevens.*
   Studies of the Portrait of Christ.—*Matheson.*
   Teachings of the Books.—*Willett and Campbell.*

2. HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND HER ACTIVITIES.
   History of Doctrine.
   History of Methodism.
   History of Hymnology.
   History of the Religions of the World.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:
   History of Christian Doctrine.—*Fisher.*
   A Compendious History of American Methodism.—*Stevens.*

The following are suggested as books to be read:
   The Life of John Wesley.—*Winchester.*
   History of Methodism.—*Stevens.*
   The Hymns and Hymn Writers of the Church.—*Tillett and Nutter.*
   History of Religion.—*Menzies.*
   The Discipline.

3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

History of Religious Education.
Methods of Religious Education.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:

Yale Lectures on the Sunday School.—*Trumbull.*
The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice.—*Meyer.*

The following are suggested as books to be read:

Sunday School Movements in America.—*Brown.*
Handwork in the Sunday School.—*Littlefield.*
How to Tell Stories to Children.—*Bryant.*

4. SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

The Church and Its Work of Service.
Methods of Social Work.
Nursing.
Lectures on First Aid and Nursing.
Club Work.
Domestic Science.

The following are suggested as textbooks for the above study:

Christianizing the Social Order.—*Rauschenbusch.*
Friendly Visiting Among the Poor.—*Richmond.*
Social Ministry.—*Ward.*

The following are suggested as books to be used:

Social Solutions.—*Hall.*
The Church and the Changing Order.—*Mathews.*

INDEX

The difficulties in the making of an Index for a book such as the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church can be understood only by one who has essayed the task. The inter-relations of organizations and activities are exceedingly complex; hence enumerations and classifications might be extended almost indefinitely. The present classification has been prepared to meet the most diverse needs. We have found it necessary to use many cross references which sometimes violate the strict laws of logical arrangement. Of these violations we are altogether conscious, but we have nevertheless permitted them for the purpose of greater service. Without disparagement the Index to the Discipline of 1912 was a great improvement upon its predecessors. The 1916 Index is the most voluminous thus far attempted. We hope it is the best, though doubtless future editors will make further improvements.—EDITOR.

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¶640. INDEX

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

A

Absence, Leave of, 186
Abstinence, Fasting or (General Rules), 32
Addresses, Post Office. (See **Post Office Addresses**)
Administration, Errors of, 264 §§2, 3
Admission:
  Into Church
    Baptized Children (Preparatory Members), 50, 51, 53
    From Orthodox Evangelical Churches, 48 §4
    Full Membership, 48 §3
    Preparatory, 48 §2
    Transfer by Certificate, 55
  Into Conference
    From Other Churches, 80 §4, 165–167
    Full Membership, 80 §8, 162–164
    On Trial, 80 §5, 156–160
    Readmission, 80 §3
Advices, Special:
  Amusements, 69
  Christian Stewardship, 71
  Divorce, 68
  Dress, 66
  Marriage, 67
  Slavery, 65
  Temperance, 70 §1
  Tobacco, 70 §2
Advocates:
  Addresses of Editors, 530
  Editors of Various, 208 §4 (7), 397, 397–402
Affiliated Members, 57
Africa, Course of Study, 638
Agents, Appointed at Annual Conference, 208 §4 (1–6)
Aid Societies:
  Annual Conference, 334 §2, 343 §5
  Ladies', 97, 102 §8, 104, 107 §7, 108 §8 (4), 108 §12 (7), 182 §13, 378
Amendments to Constitution, 47
American Bible Society:
  Appointment to, 208 §3 (6)
  Collection for, 182 §24
  Officers, 542
  Resolution on, 578
Amusements:
  Advice on, 69
  Reproof and Trial for, 280
  Taking of, 30 (General Rules)
Anniversaries. (See **Annual Conference**)
Annual Conference:
  Accounts of Book Concern, 86, 170, 341 §4, 392 §1
  Agents
    Appointed at, 208 §4 (1–6)
    For Church Debts, 359
  Amendments of Constitution, 47
  Anniversaries
    Conference Claimants, 335 §1
    Deaconess Work, 233 §6
    Education, 465 §3 (5)
    Foreign Missions, 424 §2
    Home Missions, 447 §2
    Temperance, 492 §6
  Appeals
    General Direction, 313
    Of Local Preacher, 304
    Of Minister, 292–300
    Triers of, 292–297, 300
  Appointments
    Effective Preacher Entitled to, 565 §1
    In Conference Interval, 207 §5
    Made by Bishops, 207 §3, 208, 209
    Preacher left without, 211
    Question as to stations, 80 §35
    Special, 208 §§3, 4
    Under City Society, 441 §3

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Annual Conference (*cont'd*)
Apportionments
Conference Claimants, 336, 337, 579
Episcopal Fund, 331
From Commission on Finance, 407 §4
Attendance at, 75, 565 §3
Auditing and Bonding, 377
Benevolent Causes, 85, 87
Board Conference Claimants
Draft from Treasurer, 487
Report of Stewards to, 486 §2, 487 §2
Report of Treasurer of, 487
Board of Examiners, 598
Boards
Church Location and Erection, 84, 448
Education, 465
Foreign Missions, 424
Home Missions and Church Extension, 447
Temperance, 492 §6
Book Concern, Produce of, 393
Boundaries, 95 §6, 495–499, 507, 508
Change of Relation, 81 §4
Chartered Fund, 493 §4
City Societies, 442 §3
Collections for City Society, 442 §2
Committee on Conference Relations, 81
Committee on Periodicals, etc., 86, 392 §1
Complaints against Members, 82, 252–263
Conference Claimants, Support of, 333–344, 485, 486
Continuous, 569
Credentials
Delegates to General Conference, 40
Ministers from Other Churches, 80 §4, 165–167
Restoration of, 301–303
Deaconesses
Conference Board, 233
Institutions, 230 §2
Report from Conference Board, 233 §5
Education
Anniversary, 465 §3 (5)
Auxiliary Societies, 462
Board of, 465 §1
Annual Conference (*cont'd*)
Collections, 465 §3 (4)
Committee on, 465 §§1, 2
Moneys, Treasurer to Report, 471
Report of Conference Board, 465 §3 (6)
Employment of Preachers Rejected, 192
Evangelists, 208 §4 (8), 209
Examination at, 598 §7
Expense of General Conference, 384
Finance, Commission on, 409 §§1, 2
Foreign, Book Concern Produce to, 580
General Conference Districts, 74 §2, 555
Joint Session, Claimants, 335 §2
Journal, Examination of, 79, 556, 557
Judicial Administration. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Judicial Conference, Findings of in Minutes, 295
Lay Male Missionaries in, 423
Laymen in, Proposed Constitutional Change, 577
Leave of Absence from, 186
Local Church Papers, 403
Local Preachers, Orders, etc. (See **Local Preachers**)
Members Requisite, 46 §2
Ministers from Other Churches, 165 §§3–5, 166, 167
Ministers in Official Positions, 168
Mission Conference, Powers of Annual, 96 §2
Mortgaging and Sale of Church Property, 360
Non-Connectional Causes, 409 §1
Number of, 74 §1, 498, 499
Order of Business, 80
Ordination
Deacons, 80 §8 (a), §12, 83, 174, 176, 522
Elders, 80 §11 (a), §13, 83, 177, 179, 521
Organization of, 36
President, 78
Property, Church or Parsonage Deeded to, 356 §1

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs]

Annual Conference (*cont'd*)
Proceeds of Abandoned, 362
Rental of Preachers' Houses, 365
Readmission to, 164
Recommendation
Reports
Book Committee, 382 §1
Conference Deaconess Board, 233 §5
Publishing Agents, 391 §1
Stewards to Board of Conference Claimants, 486 §2, 487 §2
Treasurer Board Conference Claimants, 487 §1
Rural Societies, 444
Sessions, Special, 41 §3
Statistical Blanks, 89
Statistical Report of Pastor, 90, 91
Statistician, Duties of, 88–91
Time and Place of Sessions, 76, 77
Treasurer
Deaconess Fund, 232 §2
Duties of, 88–90, 92
Educational Moneys, 471
Trial of Member, 46 §5, 252–268, 310 §§2, 3
Triers of Appeals, 80 §25, 292–297, 300
Trustees of Funds, 361
Annuity Distribution, 339 §2, 340 §1, (1) 341, 342, 493
Antigua (page 19)
Anti-Saloon League, 583
Apostles' Creed, 72 §1, III, 511
Apparel, Costly (General Rules), 30
Appeals:
Bishop, 291
Church Member, 46 §5, 306, 307, 309 §2, 564 §1
Local Preacher, 278, 304, 305
Member of Conference, 46 §5, 292–300, 310 §2, 564 §2
Appendix, 526
Appointments. (See **Annual Conferences**)
Apportioned Benevolences, Committee on, 107 §10 (1), 111
Arbitration, 283
Army and Navy, chaplains in 208 §3 (4)
Articles of Religion:
Doctrines Contrary to, 244, 249
Enumerated, 1–25
Not to be Changed, 46 §1
Prepared by Wesley (page 19)
Asbury, Francis (pages 18, 19)
Asia, Missionary Bishops in Southern, 95 §9
Auditing and Bonding, 377
Auditing Committee, Local, 108 §12 (12), 109

B

Baptism:
Administered by
Deacon, 175
Elder, 178
Local Preacher, 159
Retired Minister, 188
Supernumerary Minister, 187
Unordained Preacher on Trial, 159
Baptized Children
Christian Training, 49, 54
Classes or Leagues, 52
Membership, 53
Preparatory Membership, 50, 108, §11 (17)
Register by Pastor, 51
No Charge for, 511
Register of, 182 §27
Ritual
Adult, 512
Infant, 511
Sacrament, A (Article), 16
Sign, A (Article), 17
Benevolence Vouchers, 588
Benevolences:
Apportioned, 107 §10 (1)
Budget of, Local, 112 §2, 321
Causes at Annual Conference, 85, 87
Committee on Apportioned, 111
Inquiry at District Conferences, 101 §3
Inquiry at Quarterly Conference, 108 §§23–26
Quarterly Remittances, 410 §6
Voucher, 588
See **Boards and Societies**
Bequests, 334 §1, 548
Bible. (See **Scriptures, Holy**)
Bible Society, American. (See **American Bible Society**)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Bishops:
Amenability, 206
Annual Conferences
Appeals from District Superintendent's Decision, 313 §13
Appeal of Member, 293
Appointments, 207 §3, 208
Appointments between Sessions, 207 §5
Benevolences, Inquiry as to, 87
Board of Claimants, 87
Board of Home Missions, 435 §8
Chartered Fund, 493 §§4, 5
Commissioner for Trial, 265 §2
District Superintendents, 189, 208 §2
Districts, 207 §2
Evangelists, 208 §4 (8), 209
Home Missions, etc., 435 §8
Law Questions, 207 §10
Ministerial Support, Inquiry Concerning, 87
Ordinations, 207 §9, 521, 522
Preacher Left without Appointment, 211
Presidency at, 78, 207 §1
Quarterly Conference Membership, 207 §4
Special Appointments, 208 §§3, 4
Appeal to General Conference, 291
Central Mission Conferences, 95 §§2, 3
Charges against Missionary Bishop, 247
Charges, Pastoral, United, 213
City Societies, 440
Conference Claimants, 87, 340 §2
Consecration of, 204, 205, 207 §9, 520
Consolidation of Churches, 571
Courses of Study, 210
Deaconesses, Consecration of, 236 §2, 523
District Conferences, 99, 207 §8
District Superintendents
Appointment of, 189, 208 §2
Attended by, 190 §18
Law Decisions, 313 §13

Bishops (*continued*)
Episcopacy Not to be Done Away, 46 §3
General Conference
Amendments to Constitution, 47
Extra Session, 41 §2
Place of, 41 §§1, 2
Presidency of, 42 §2, 554, Rules 3–6
How Constituted
Consecration of, 204, 207 §9, 520
Election of, 42 §1, 204, 205
None Remaining, 204, 215
Investigation of, 241–245, 310 §1
Investigation of Agent or Editor, 337 §2
Judicial Conference, 293, 295, 297
Law Questions, 207 §10, 313 §13
Lay Electoral Conference, Extra Session, 41 §3
Member of Boards
Church Temperance Society, 492 §3
City Society, 440
Commission on Courses of Study, 210 §1
Commission on Finance, 407 §1
Conference Claimants, 482 §1
Deaconess Board, 230 §1
Education, 457 §1
Epworth League, 488 §4
Foreign Missions, 414 §2
Freedmen's Aid, 452
Home Missions, 432 §1
Sunday Schools, 472 §2
Unification and Federation, 589 (3)
Mission Conferences, 96 §§2–4
Missions
Annual Meeting, 449 §1
Deaconess Board in, 240 §1
Death of Missionary Bishop, 202
Transfer of Preacher from, 203
Visitation of, 199
Post Office Addresses, 526, 527
Presidency of
Annual Conference, 78, 207 §1
Board of Foreign Missions, 414 §3

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Bishops (*continued*)
Central Mission Conference, 95 §3
Committee on Conference Boundaries, 495
District Conferences, 99, 207 §8
Epworth League, 488 §4
Mission Conference, 96 §§3, 4
Missions, 449 §1
Temperance Society, 492 §3
Residential Supervision, 560
Retired, 216–218
Special Appointments and Nominations for
Board of Claimants, 482 §1
Board of Education, 457 §2
Board of Examiners, 598 §1
Board of Home Missions, 432 §1
Board of Sunday Schools, 472 §2
Board of Temperance, etc., 492 §3
Commission on Course of Study, 210 §1
Commission on Finance, 407 §1
Commission on Unification and Federation, 589 (3)
District Missionary Secretary, 426
Elder to Investigate District Superintendent, 252 §2
Freedmen's Aid, 452
General Deaconess Board, 230 §1
Superintendent of Foreign Mission, 422 §1
Superintendent Mission Conference, 96 §3
University Senate, 467 §1
Vacancies. (See **Vacancies**)
Supervision Contiguous and Continuous, 559
Support of, 323 §1, 327, 328 §6, §7, 329–332, 382 §3
Theological Schools, 212, 466 §5
Trials of, 246, 310 §1, 313 §8
Transfer of Preachers, 80 §2 §15, 203, 565 §1
Travel, 207 §6, 214, 330
Board of Conference Claimants. (See **Conference Claimants**)
Board of Education. (See **Education**)
Board of Examiners. (See **Courses of Study**)
Board of Foreign Missions. (See **Foreign Missions**)
Board of Home Missions, Etc. (See **Home Missions, Etc.**)
Board of Sunday Schools. (See **Sunday Schools**)
Boardman, Richard (page 18)
Boards and Societies, Administrative, Officers and Addresses. (See **Post Office Addresses**)
Boards, Benevolent. Cooperation with Commission on Finance, 407 §1
Expenses of Commission, 407 §2
Needs and Askings, 407 §3, 408
Bonding and Auditing, 377
Book Committee. (See **Book Concern, The Methodist**)
Book Concern, The Methodist:
Accounts Due, 86, 170, 341 §4, 392 §1
Agents Administrative Officers, 388 §§1, 2
Assets and Liabilities, 390 §3
Book Committee
Addresses, Post Office, 533 §1
Apportion Episcopal Support, 331
Assets and Liabilities of Concern, 390 §3
Chairman of, 385, 387 §1
Conference or Local Papers, 403
Designation of Agents, 388 §§2, 3
Direction to Editors, 401
Discontinuance of Depository or Publication, 382 §2
Duties of, 381–384
Editors Not Elected by General Conference, 399
Elect Book Editor, 383
Election of, 380
Estimate Support of Bishops, 329
Expense of Departments, 382 §2
Fix Salaries, etc., 382 §3
Foreign Conferences, Produce to, 580
General Agent, 388 §2

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Book Concern, The Methodist (*continued*)
General Conference Expenses, 384 §§1, 2
General Conference Treasurer, 384 §1
Inventory of Concern, 390 §2
Investigation of Agent or Editor, 387 §§2, 3
Matters Referred by Agents or Editors, 382 §2
Meetings of, 381 §2
New Buildings, 386 §2
Officers of, 381 §1
Produce to Foreign Conferences, 580
Quorum, 381 §2
Repairs, etc., 386 §2
Report from Agents, 391 §1
Report from Episcopal Fund, 332
Report to Annual and General Conference, 382 §1
Sunday School Literature, 472 §3
Tracts, 389 §2
Treasurer Episcopal Fund, Election of, 332
Vacancy in Departments, 387 §4
Book Editor
Duties of, 395
Election of, 383
Post Office Address of, 530 §2
Committee on Periodicals, etc., at Conference, 392 §1
Condition of Concern, 382 §1
Conference Papers, 403
Correspondence Fund, 382 §3
Depositories
Discontinuance of, 382 §2
Location of, 394 §1, 529
No Books on Commission, 406
Part of Concern, 379 §1
Proceeds of, 394 §2
Sales of, 391 §1
Supervision of, 385
District Superintendents
Debts Due Concern, 392 §2
Expenses General Conference, 384 §1
Editors Not Elected by General Conference, 399
Expense of Departments, 382 §2

Book Concern, The Methodist (*continued*)
Local Committee
Approval of Agents' Appointments, 388 §3
Chairman of, 385
Duties of, 385, 386 §1
Election of, 380 §2
Joint Session, 387 §1
May suspend Agent or Editor, 387 §2
Monthly Statement of Agents, 391 §2
Officers of, 385
Post Office Addresses of, 533 §§2, 3
Valuation of Real Estate, 390 §2
No Books on Commission, 406
Objects, 46 §6, 336, 342 §1, 379
Proceeds for Members of Mission Conference, 96 §2
Publishing Agents
Accounts of Concern, 390 §1
Agent Emeritus, 529
Appointment of, 208 §3 (2)
Charter Fund Money, 493 §3
Designation of, 388 §§2, 3
Discontinuance of Depository or Publication, 382 §2
Duties of, 389
Election of, 388 §1
Expenses Curtailed, 382 §2
General Agent, 388 §2
Inventory, 390 §2
Investigation of, 387 §2
Matters referred to Book Committee, 382 §2
Monthly Statement, 391 §2
Post Office Addresses of, 529
Provide Statistical Blanks, 89
Removal of, 387 §3
Reports of, 391 §1
Salaries of, 382 §3
Report of Pittsburgh Advocate, 402
Report to Conferences, 392 §1
Statement to Successors 390, §3
Sunday School Literature 472 §3
Superintendents, etc., Appointed by, 388 §3
Treasurer Episcopal Fund, 532

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Book Concern, The Methodist (*continued*)
Treasurer Freedmen's Aid, 453 §3
Real Estate, 386 §2
Supervision of Houses and Depositories, 385
Tracts, 395
Vacancy in Departments, 387 §4
Book Editor. (See **Book Concern, The Methodist**)
Books, Unprofitable (General Rules), 30
Borrowing (General Rules), 30
Boston:
Depository at, 394 §1, 529
Episcopal Residence (Malden), 526
Boundaries:
Central Mission Conferences, 95 §6, 495, 505
Conferences in United States, 498
Enabling Acts, 507–510
Foreign Conferences, 499
General Conference Commission on, 495
Joint Commission on, 496
Legal Notice, 570
Mission Conferences and Missions in United States, 500
Mission Conferences and Missions, Foreign, 501–504
Budgets, Local Church, 321, 410 §5
Bulgarian, Course In, 636
Burial of Dead (Ritual), 518, 519
Business:
Arbitration, 283
Failure, 259
Minister, 259, 285
Trial, 284

C

California Christian Advocate, 397 §1, §6, 530
Call to Preach, 114
Catechism, 182 §11, 511
Centenary Educational Fund, 460 §§5, 7
Central Christian Advocate, 397 §1, §4, 530
Central Mission Conference:
Bishops in Southern Asia, 95 §9
Central Mission Conference (*continued*)
Conferences in, 95 §§1, 2, §§4–6, 495
Discontinuance of, 95 §7
Duties of, 95 §§4, 6
Journal of, 95 §8
Meetings of, 95 §§2, 3
Organization of, 95 §1
President of, 95 §3
Vote in, 95 §5
Ceremonies, Rites and (Article) 22
Certificates:
Challenge in General Conference, 43
Church Membership, Not Refused, 56 §1
Deaconess, 236 §9
Election to General Conference, 43
From Theological Seminaries, Universities, and Colleges, 597 §§1, 3
Local Preacher, 221 §§1, 2
Location of Ministers, 164
Pastor's Report, 183 §2, I
Quarterly Conference Question, 108 §11 (18, 19)
Recognition of Orders, 166, 167
Registration of Baptized Children, 51, 108 §11 (22)
Transfer of Membership, 55, 182 §3
Challenge. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Chaplains, 176 §4, 179 §4, 208 §3 (4)
Charge, Pastoral, 34
Charges:
Forms for, 595
General Directions, 311
See also **Judicial Administration**
Charitable Institutions, Appointment to, 208 §3 (4)
Charters, Deeds, Etc., 190 §8
Chartered Fund:
Collectors for, 493 §2
Drafts on, 493 §5
Moneys for, 493 §3
Payments to Conferences, 336, 342 §1, 493 §4
Purpose of, 46 §6, 493 §1
Securities, 493 §6
Trustees of, 494, 545

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Chicago:
Book Agent at, 388 §3, 529
Conference Claimants, Board of, 540
Episcopal Residence, 526
Epworth Herald, 530
Epworth League, 541
Northwestern Advocate, 530
Publishing Agent at, 388 §3, 529
Sunday Schools, Board of, 539
Child Welfare, 585
Children:
Classes for, 52, 182 §10
Entitled to Baptism, 49
Instruction of, 108 §38, 182 §10
Members of Kingdom, 49
Children, Baptized:
Certificates of Registration, 51
Church Membership, 51, 53, 90 §7, 515
Classes, 52
Deprived of Christian Guardianship, 54
Junior Leagues, 52
Register of, 51
Relation of, 50
Training of Orphans, etc., 54
Under Instruction, 108 §11 (17)
Children's Day:
Conferences to Share Fund, 460 §3
District Superintendents, 468 §2 (2)
Fund, Purpose of, 460 §§1–3
Loans, 460 §4
Observance of Day, 108 §35 (d), (e), 468 §2 (2), 470
Pastor's Report, 183, IV (b)
Purpose of Fund, 460 §§1, 2
Quarterly Conference Question, 108 §26 (5)
China, Course of Study, 638
Christ:
Made Very Man (Article), 2
Oblation of (Article), 20
Of the Trinity (Article), 1
Resurrection of (Article), 3
Christian Advocate, The, 396, 530
Christliche Apologete, Der, 396, 530
"Christmas Conference" (page 19)
Church (Organization):
Ministers Joining Another, 172
Organization of Local, 193
Church (Organization) *(cont'd)*
Records, 58, 108 §12 (12, a), 110
Rites and Ceremonies (Article), 22
Uniting from Evangelical, 48 §4
Visible, The (Article), 13
Church Extension. (See **Home Missions, Etc.**)
Church Location and Erection, District Board of, 84, 448
Church Members. (See **Member of the Church**)
Church Property:
Aid in Building, 438 §2
Building of, 357–359, 438 §1
Conveyance of, 353–356
Mortgage and Sale of, 360–363
Parsonages, 364–368, 438 §1
Trustees of, 345–354, 356 §1, 360–362, 366, 367
Church Records. (See **Records, Church**)
Church Temperance Society. (See **Temperance**)
Churches:
Consolidation of, 571
Federal Council of, 593
Social Creed of, 586
Union with Other, 573, 590
Cincinnati:
Agent at, 388 §3, 529
Book Concern, 379 §1, 529
Christliche Apologete, Der, 530
Episcopal Residence, 526
Freedmen's Aid Society, 536
Haus und Herd, 530
Local Book Committee, 380 §2, 533 §3
Sunday School Publications, 530
Treasurer of Freedmen's Aid Society, 532
Trustees of Church, 370, 532, 546
Western Christian Advocate, 397 §1, §2, §9, 530
City Societies:
Annual Conference, Interest of, 442 §3
Annual Report, 439 §6
Appointments under, 441 §3
Appropriations for, 439 §5, 441 §5
Authority of, 441 §§1, 4
Council, 441 §6

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

City Societies (*continued*)
District Superintendent, 440, 442 §1
Offerings for, 108 §26 (11)
Organization of, 440
Pastor, Duty of, 442 §2
Quarterly Conference, Representation in, 440
Representation in Quarterly Conferences, 441, §2.
Secretaries and Superintendents of, 208 §3 (8), 441 §3
Under Department of City Work, 439 §§1, 2, 4–6
Classes:
Appointment of Leaders, 182 §2
Baptized Children in, 52
Collection in, 182 §18
Course of Study, Leaders, 64 §2, 603
Design of, 60, 61 §1
District Conference, 102 §3 (9)
Duty of Leaders, 61 §§2–64
Exhorter Recommended, 227
Improper Leaders, 64 §1
Leaders in New Church, 193
Meeting Together, 62
Methods, 63
Neglect of, Trial for, 281
Report of Leader, 61 §2
Coke, Thomas (pages 18, 19)
Collections:
Conference Committee, 392 §1
Quarterly Conference, Representation in, 440
Representation in Quarterly Conferences, 441 §2
See also **Boards** and **Societies**
Colleges, Day of Prayer, 582
Certificates from, 597, §§1, 3
Colored Churches, Federation of, 592
Commandments, Ten, 511
Commissioner, Conference, Trial, 265 §2
Commissions:
Colored Churches, Federation of, 549 §4, 592
Correlation, 549 §6
Course of Study, 210, 549 §1
Expenses of, 182 §25
Faith and Order, 549 §5
Finance, Annual Conference, 328, §§2–6, §8, 409 §§1, 2
Finance, General, 336, 407–409, 549 §2
Commissions (*continued*)
General Conference Session, 41 §§1, 2
Statistical Blanks, 549 §7
Unification, 549 §3, 589 (3), 591
Committees:
Conference Relations, 81
Estimating, 108 §16 (1), 323 §1
Foreign Missions, in Church, 427 §2, 428 §§2–4
General Conference, 554, Rules 35–53
Investigation, Bishop, 241, 247, 250
Investigation, Members, 252
Judiciary, 291 §2, 300, 554, Rules 36, 40 §3 (2), 51
Ministerial Qualifications, 81 §7
Periodicals, etc., Annual Conference, 86, 392 §1
Sunday School, 108 §10 (4), 479 §2, 480 §1
Temperance, 108 §10 (6), 492 §7
Trial, Members, 287
Communion. (See **Lord's Supper**)
Complaints. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Complaints and Charges, 575
Conduct, Rules for Preacher's, 115, 126
Conferences. (See **Annual, Central, District, General, Judicial, Lay Electoral, Mission, Quarterly**)
Conference Anniversaries. (See **Annual Conference**)
Conference Claimants:
Anniversaries
Conference, 335 §1
Joint Session, 335 §2
Veteran's Day, 335 §3
Annual Conference Funds, 334 §2
Annual Conference Questions, 80 §§31–34
Annuity Distribution, 339 §2, 340 §1, 341, 342
Apportionment to Charges, 80 §33, 328 §6, 336
Board
Amount Required, 484 §1
Connectional Relief, 336, 340 §1 (3), 485, 486
Contributions to, 337

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Conference Claimants *(cont'd)*
Corresponding Secretary, 482 §1, §2, 483 §1, 531, 540
Debt to Book Concern, 341 §4
Dividend to Conferences, 487 §1
Expenses of, 484 §2, 579
Incorporation, 482 §3
Permanent Fund, 334 §1
Report from Conference Stewards, 487 §2
Report of Treasurer, 487 §1
Officers, 483, 540
Members of, 482 §1, §2, 540
Treasurer, Duty of, 487 §1, 532, 540
Book Concern, Income from, 46 §6, 326, 342 §1
Chartered Fund, Income from, 46 §6, 342 §1
Churches, Duty of, 340 §2
Claim, 333 §1, 341
Claimants
Children, 333 §2, 339 §5, 341 §3
Retired Ministers, 333 §2, 341 §1
Widows, 333 §2, 339 §5, 341 §2
Claims, 327 §1, 333 §1, 341
Collections, 340 §2
Commission on Finance, Apportionment of, 336
Conference Stewards, Duties of, 339
Connectional Permanent Fund, 334 §1, 485 §2
Distribution
Annuity, 340 §1 (1), 341
Connectional Relief, 336, 340 §1 (3), 344, 485, 486
Necessitous, 340 §1 (2), 343
District Stewards, Duty of, 327
District Superintendents, Duty of, 340 §2
Endowments
Annual Conference, 334 §2
Board of Conference Claimants, 334 §1
Estimating Committee, 107 §10 (14), 108 §16 (5), §17 (4), 321, 323 §1, 338
Finance Commission of Conference, Apportionment, 328 §6
Income for, 46 §6, 334, 336, 340 §2, 485 §2
Conference Claimants *(cont'd)*
Pastor, Duty of, 182 §22, 335 §2, 340 §2
Preachers' Aid Society, 334 §2
Pro Rata, 87, 328 §7, 331, 574
Quarterly Conference, Duty of, 107 §10 (14), 108 §13 (3), §16 (5), 338
Responsibility of Bishops, etc., 87, 340 §2
Retired Ministers, 188, 333 §2, 341 §1
Retired Missionaries, Support of, 419 §1
Settlement Day, 327
Support, Claim to Comfortable, 333 §1
Veterans' Day, 335 §3
Conference Evangelists. (See **Evangelists**)
Conference Stewards. (See **Stewards, Conference**)
Confirmation Not Sacrament (Article), 16
Connectional Relief, 336, 340 §1, (3) 344, 485, 486
Consecration:
Bishops, 204, 205, 207 §9, 520
Deaconesses, 236 §2, §3, 523
Consolidation of Churches, 571
Constituency Roll, 48 §5
Constitution:
Amendments to, 47
Minister Not Counted Twice on Vote, 38 §3
Of the Church, 1–47
Proposed Change, Laymen in Annual Conference, 577
Sunday School, 594 §1
Sunday School Missionary Society, 594 §2
Two-thirds Vote, 561
Constructions of Law. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Conversation, Uncharitable (General Rules), 30
Conveyance of Church Property. (See **Trustees**)
Coordinate Authority:
Bishops, 198, 199
Corresponding Secretaries, 415 §1, 453 §1
Corner Stone Laying, Ritual for, 524

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Corporate Names of Organizations, 548
Correspondence Fund, 382 §3
Corresponding Secretaries:
Appointment of, 208 §3 (1)
Members of Commission on Finance, 407 §1
Post Office Addresses, 531
See **Boards and Societies**
Council. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Council:
Federal, 593
Of Methodism, 591
Courses of Study:
Africa, 638
Bulgarian, 636
China, 638
Commission on, 210, 549 §1
Deaconesses, 639
English, 599–603
Examination
Annual Conferences, 157 §1 (2), 161, 176 §§1–3, 179 §§1–3
Board of Examiners, 598
Certificates Accepted, 597
Discipline, 597 §§1, 4
District Conferences, 102 §2
Graduates College and Theological Schools, 597 §4
Precedes Orders, 566
Quarterly Conference, 220 §§1–3
Finnish, 624–628
French, 637
General Statement, 596
German, 604, 605
India, 638
Italian, 631–634
Japan, 638
Korea, 638
Local Preachers, English, 220 §§1–3
Malaysia, 638
Norwegian and Danish, 606–615
Ojibway, 638
Russian, 629, 630
Spanish, 635
Sweden, 620–623
Swedish in United States, 616–618
Court of Appeals. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Credentials:
Delegates to General Conference, 40
Deprivation of Ministerial, 82, 266
From Other Churches, 165 §3
Of Ministers Withdrawn, 172 §§1, 2
Received on, 80 §4
Restoration of, 301–303
Returned by Local Preachers, 273 §2
See **Certificates**
Creed, Apostles', 72 §1, III, 511
Custodian of Deeds, 108 §34

D

Dancing, (General Rules) 30, 69, 280
Day of Prayer for Colleges, 582
Deacons:
Annual Conference Question, 80 §§8 (a), 12
Authority of, 175
Eligibility
Chaplains, 176 §4
How Constituted, 174
Local Preachers, 176 §1
Missionary Rule, 176 §4
On Trial, Two Years, 176 §3
Seminary Rule, 176 §2
Examination, 176 §§1–3, 599–637
In India, 181
Ordination Ritual, 522
Restoration of Credentials, Local, 303
Deaconesses:
Allowance for Retired, 230 §3
Certificate of Consecration, 236 §9
Certificate of Discharge, 236 §9
Conference Board
Absence of Deaconesses, 236 §7
Amenability, 233 §7
Anniversary at Conference, 233 §6
Appointment of, 233 §1
Approval by Annual Conference, 233 §7
Approval of Fields, 233 §3
Certificate from Training School, 236 §1 (3)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Deaconesses (*continued*)
Certificate of Recognition, Probationer's, 235 §§2–4
Duties of, 233 §2
License of Deaconesses, 236 §1
Report of Institutions, 233 §4
Report to Conference, 233 §5
Syllabus by Deaconesses, 639 §4
Transfer of Deaconesses, 233 §2, 236 §§5, 6
Consecration, 236 §2, 523
Course of Study, 236 §3, 639
Definition of, 229
Garb, 230 §3, 235 §5, 236 §§3, 8
General Board
Approval of Conference Board, 233 §7
Blanks Furnished, 233 §4
Contributions to, 233 §5
Cooperation with Other Boards, 230 §4
Corresponding Secretary, 231 §2, 531 §2 544
Establishment of Institutions, 230 §2, 234 §2
Functions, 230
General Duties of, 230 §§2–4
Health Certificate Prescribed, 235 §2 (2), 236 §1 (2)
Incorporation, 230
Maintenance, 232, 233 §5
Officers, 231
Report from Institutions, 234 §5
Standards for Entrance, 230 §3
Health Certificate, 235 §2 (2), 236 §1 (2)
Honorable Discharge, 236 §9
In Europe, 239
In Mission Fields, 240
Institutions
Establishment of, 230 §2, 234 §2
German Central Board, 234 §3
Local Board, 234 §3
Methodist Association, 234 §3
Probationary, 235
Property of, 234 §3
Purpose of, 234 §1
Recognition of, 234 §2
Deaconesses (*continued*)
Recommendation of Deaconess, 236 §4
Report of, 234 §5
Training Schools, 230 §3, 234 §4, 235 §2 (3), 236 §1 (3)
Woman's Foreign Society, 234 §3
Woman's Home Society, 234 §3
Licenses, 236 §§1–4
Leave of Absence, 236 §7
Quarterly Conference, 108 §28, 236 §6
Relief Fund, 238
Resignation or Discontinuance of Deaconesses, 236 §8
Restoration of, 236 §9
Retired, 237
Transfer of, 233 §2, 236 §§5, 6
Debt:
Candidates for Full Membership, 162
Candidates on Trial, 157 §1
Church Member (General Rules), 30, 286 §2
Member of Conference, 259, 285
Decency and Cleanliness, 182 §21
Decisions. (See **General Conference**)
Dedication, Form for Church, 525
Deeds. (See **Trustees**)
Delegates:
Fraternal, 182 §25
General Conference
Challenge of Delegates, 43
Credentials of Delegates, 40
Lay Electoral Conference
Certificates to General Conference Delegates, 40
Elections to General Conference, 39 §§4, 5
How Constituted, 39 §1
Meeting of, 39 §§2, 3
Lay Delegates, General Conference
Challenge of, 43
Reserves, 39 §4
Voting by Orders, 45
Laymen's Associations
Delegates to, 94
Purpose of, 94

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Delegates (*continued*)
Ministerial Delegates, General Conference
Chairman of, Paper from Committee on Judiciary, 300
Challenge of, 43
Credentials of, 40
Election of, 38 §§2, 3
Minister not Counted Twice, 38 §3
Number of, 38
Reserves, 38 §2
Voting by Orders, 45
Deposed Ministers. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Depositories. (See **Book Concern, The Methodist**)
Detroit:
Book Concern Depository, 394 §1, 529
Episcopal Residence, 526
Diligence and Frugality (General Rules), 31
"Directions and Helps" for Examination, 599 §1
Disagreement in Business. (See **Business**)
Discipline:
Administration by Pastor, 182 §3
Appendix of, 526–640
Constitution, 1–47
Contents (pages 7–16)
Editors of (page 2)
Examination in. (See **Doctrine**)
Legislation, 48–525
Ritual, 511–525
Discontinuance:
Central Mission Conference, 95 §7
District Conference, 103
Preaching Place, 185
Dissension. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Distribution to Claimants. (See **Conference Claimants**)
Districts:
Annual Conference, 207 §2
General Conference, 74 §2, 555
District Board, Church Location and Erection, 84, 448
District Conferences:
Annual Meeting of Missions, 449 §1
District Conferences (*cont'd*)
Appeal of Local Preachers, 304
Benevolences, 101 §3, 102 §3 (2)
Composition of, 97
Conference Claimants, 340 §2
Credentials, Restoration of, 301
Discontinuance of, 103
Exhorters, 101 §2, 102 §§3 (4), 5
Investigations and Trials, 271–273 §§1, 2
Ladies' Aid Societies, 101 §6, 102 §8, 378 §3
League Chapters, 101 §5, 102 §3 (7)
Local Preachers, 101 §2, 102 §§3 (3), 4
Meetings, 98
Ministers from Other Churches, 165 §2
Missionary and Church Extension, 101 §8
Mission Schools, 101 §8
Neglected Portions, 101 §8
Order of Business, 101, 102
Organization of, 97
President of, 99
Records of, 100
Sunday Schools, 101 §4, 102 §3 (6)
Support of Ministry, 101 §3
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, 101 §7
Woman's Home Missionary Society, 101 §7
District Epworth Leagues. (See **Epworth Leagues**)
District Missionary Secretaries, 424 §1, 426
District Stewards:
Conference Claimants, 327
Duties of, 326
Episcopal Fund, 327, 328, 331
Ministerial Support, 326, 327, 328
Records, 327
Settlement Day, 327
Support of District Superintendent, 327, 328
District Superintendents:
Appointment of, 96 §3, 189, 208 §2
Attend Bishop, 190 §18
Benevolent Collections, 87, 190 §10
Board of Church Location, 448

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

District Superintendents (*continued*)
Chartered Fund, 493 §2
City Society
Duty Regarding, 442 §1
Organization of, 440
Conference, Place of, 77
Conference Claimants, 87, 340 §2
Debts of Book Concern, 392 §2
Department of Evangelism, 446 §2
District Cabinet, 488 §3
District Conference, 98, 99, 102 §7, 103
District Stewards' Records, 327
Education, Duty as to, 468
Evangelism in Local Church, 479 §1
Foreign Missions
District Board, 425
District Missionary Secretary, 426
Duty as to, 427
Member Conference Board, 424 §1
Missions under Care, 190 §19
President District Board, 425
Freedmen's Aid, 454 §2
General Conference Expenses, 384 §1
House for Ministers, 368
Italian Mission, Quarterly Conferences, 449 §3
Judicial Administration
Accusation against Bishop, 241, 243
Accusation against Missionary Bishop, 248
Appeal of Member, 306 §4, 307
Court of Appeals, 306 §2
Counsel in Trial, 310 §2
Credentials, Local Elder or Deacon, 303
Debt or Dispute, 285
Investigation of District Superintendent, 252 §2
Investigation of Ministers, 252 §1, 253–255, 257–260
Law Decisions, Appeal from, 313 §13
Trials Referred to, 265 §4
Ladies' Aid Societies, 378 §3
Local Preacher
Certificate to, 221 §§1, 2

District Superintendents (*continued*)
Work of, 222, 224
Mortgage or Sale of Church Property, 361
Organize Church, 193
Preachers on Trial, 190 §21
Presidency Quarterly Conference, 105 §1
Report to District Conference, 102 §3
Sunday Schools, 479
Superintendent Foreign Mission, 422 §1
Support
Estimate of, 323 §1, 327, 328 §4
Monthly Payment, 328 §§5, 8
Pro Rata with Bishops, etc., 87, 327, 328 §7, 331, 574
Temperance, 492 §§6, 7
Term of Service, 208 §2
Theological Schools, 190 §20, 466 §5
Diversions (General Rules), 30, 69
Dividends:
Book Concern, 46 §6, 342 §1, 393
Chartered Fund, 46 §6, 342 §1, 493 §1
Connectional Relief, 340 §3, 485
Investments, 342 §2
Divorce:
Advice on, 68
Violation of Law, 264 §1
Doctrine:
Discipline and, 53, 165 §4, 220 §1, 3, 597, §§1, 4
Missionary Bishops, 249
New Standards, 46 §1
Violation by Theological Teacher, 255, 256
Dress:
Advice on (General Rules), 30, 66
Deaconesses, 230 §3, 235 §5, 236 §§3, 8

E

Editors:
Addresses of, 530
Appointment of, 208 §§3 (3), 4 (7)
Correspondence Fund, 382 §3
Discontinuance of Publication, 382 §2

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Editors (*continued*)
Duties of, 401
Election of Official, 396, 397 §§1–8
Election of Unofficial, 399
Epworth Herald, Editor
Election of, 396, 488 §5
Member Board of Control, 488 §4
Salary of, 488 §8
Vacancy, 488 §5
German Publications, 400
Investigation of, 387 §§2, 3
Matters Referred to Book Committee, 382 §2
Nominated, 397 §8
Of Discipline (page 2)
Pittsburgh Advocate, 398
Removal of, 387 §3
Salaries of, 382 §3
Salary of Pittsburgh, 402
Sunday School Publications
Editor ex officio Member of Board, 472 §2, §5, 474 §3
Election and Amenability of Editor, 474
Literature of Sunday School, 472 §3
Vacancy, 387 §4
Education:
Auxiliary Societies, 462
Board of
Addresses, Post Office, 537
By-Laws, 463
Constitution of, 464
Corresponding Secretary, 458 §2, 531, 537
Executive Committee, 459 §2
Finance Committee, 461
Loans, 460 §4
Meetings of, 459 §1
Moneys to, 460
Object of, 456
Officers of, 458
Trustees of, 457 §1, 461
Vacancies in, 457 §2
Collection, 182 §22, 465 §3 (4)
Conference Committee on, 465 §§1, 2
Conference Board, 465
District Superintendents, 468
Highlanders of South, 460 §7
Institutions, 466
Moneys, 460
Pastors, Duty of, 182 §22, 469
Education (*continued*)
Quarterly Conference Question, 108 §§26 (5), 35 (b)
Treasurer, Report of, 471
University Senate, 467, 538
Elders:
Accusation against District Superintendent, 252 §2
Authority of, 178
Bishop, Charges against, 241
Commissioners at Trial, 265 §2
Eligibility
Absence of Bishop, 180
Chaplains, 179 §4
Deacons Two Years, 179 §2
Examinations, 179 §§1–3, 599–637
Local Deacons, 179 §1
Seminary Rule, 179 §3
How Constituted, 177
In India, 181
Local, Restoration of Credentials, 303
Lord's Supper, 178
Missionary Bishop, Charges against, 247, 248
Preside at Conference, 78
Elections:
Annual Conference, to General, 38,
Election Board, 93 §§1–4
Lay Electoral Conference, 39
To Lay Conference, 93
To Orders, 174, 177, 566
Embury, Philip (page 17)
Enabling Acts, 506–510
Endowment Funds. (See **Funds**)
English, Non-Speaking People, Work Among, 587
Envelope System, 410 §4
Episcopacy. (See **Bishops**)
Episcopal Address (pages 3–5)
Episcopal Fund:
Amounts to Treasurer, 331
Apportionments for, 331
Duties of Treasurer, 332
Plan for, 327, 328 §7
Pro Rata Claim, 87, 328 §7, 331, 574
Quarterly Conference Question, 108 §§16 (7), 17 (6), 20
Support of Bishops, 329–332
Support of Missionary Bishop, 195
Treasurer, Drafts on, 330

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Episcopal Residences, 526, 527
Episcopal Supervision:
Contiguous and Continuous, 559
Residential, 560
Epworth Herald. (See **Editors**)
Epworth League:
Board
Central Office, 488 §9, 541
Colored Assistant, 488 §§4, 7
General Secretary, 488 §§4, 5, 531, 541
German Secretary, 488, §§4, 6
Management of, 488 §4
Officers of, 488 §5
Organization of, 488 §3
Salary and Expenses, 488 §8
Vacancy, 488 §5
Chapters, 488 §3, 490, 491
City Leagues, 488 §3
District Conference, 101 §5
District Leagues, 488 §3
District Superintendents, Duty of, 490
General Conference District Leagues, 488 §3
Local Constitutions, 488 §10
Local Chapters, Control of, 488 §3
Pastors, Duty of, 182 §12, 490
President of Chapter
Committee on Foreign Missions, 427 §2
District Conference Board of Foreign Missions, 424 §1
Duty of, 489
Election of, 489
Report to Quarterly Conference, 489
State Leagues, 488 §3
Errors:
Judicial Proceedings, 264 §2
Law or Administration, 264 §§2, 3
Estimating Committee, 108 §16, 323 §1
Europe, Deaconess Work in, 239
Evangelical Denominations:
Ministers from, 165–167
Persons Joining, 56 §2
Uniting with, 48 §4
Evangelism, Department of, 446
Evangelists, Conference:
Appointed by Bishop, 208 §4 (8)
At Large, 209
Bureau of, 446 §2
Engagement of, 184
Every-Member Canvass, 410 §2, 455
Evil, Speaking Falsely (General Rules), 30
Examination. (See **Courses of Study**)
Examiners, Board of, 598
Exhorter:
Amenability, 228
Annual Examination of, 228
District Conference, 101 §2, 102 §§2 (6), 5
Duties of, 228
How Constituted, 227
License, 182 §7, 227, 228
Quarterly Conference, 108 §§28, 29 (a), (b)
Expulsion. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Extreme Unction, Not Sacrament (Article), 16

F

Family Prayer (General Rules) 32
Fasting or Abstinence (General Rules), 32
Federation:
Colored Methodist Churches, 592
Federal Council, Churches of Christ, 593
Federal Council, Methodism, 591
Other Churches than Methodist Episcopal, South, 590
Unification, 589
Fighting, Etc. (General Rules), 30
Finance, Commission on:
Conference, 328 §§2–8
General, 407–410
Financial Plan:
Education, 410 §1
Envelope System, 410 §4
Every-Member Canvass, 410 §2
Quarterly Remittances, 410 §6
Two Budgets and Treasurers, 410 §5
Weekly Offerings, 410 §3

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Finnish Course of Study, 624, 625
Foreign Conferences, Book Concern Produce, 580
Foreign Missions:
Administration of, 422
Aid to Mission Conferences, 96 §6
Annual Conference Board, 80 §27, 424
Aid of Board of Education, 460 §1
Board
Annual Meeting, 414 §3
Appropriations of, 414 §1, 418 §2
Condition of Missions, 190 §19
Committee of Counsel, 413 §3
Corresponding Secretaries, 415 §1, 531, 534
Gifts to, 419 §§1–3
Honorary Managers, 413 §2
Incorporation of, 411
Managers of, 414 §§1–3, 429 §2, 524
Members of, 413 §1
Name and Object of, 412
Officers of, 414 §5, 416, 417, 534
Quorum, 414 §8
Removal of Officers, 414 §6
Tracts, Publication of, 414 §9
Vacancies of Officers, 414 §7
Central Mission Conferences, 95
District Board, 425
District Secretaries, 426
Duty of Churches, 428
Duty of District Superintendents, 190 §10, 424 §1, 425 §1, 426, 427
Duty of Pastors, 182 §22, 183 §2, IV, 428
Epworth League Presidents, 424 §1, 427 §2
Foreign Missionary Day, 428 §4
Japan, Missionaries in, 422 §4
Lay Male Missionaries in Conferences, 423
Minister Joining Conference, 160
Mission Conferences, 96
Mission Study Classes, 428 §6
Missionary Bishops, Retirement of, 217 §1
Foreign Missions (*continued*)
Missionary Information, 428 §3
Missionary Prayer Meetings, 428 §3
Missionaries Constituted, 419 §2
Missions, 449
Quarterly Conference Action, 104, 107 §10 (2), 108 §§25, 26
Retired Missionaries, Support of, 419 §1
Sunday School Missionary Society, 428 §5, 478 §5 (12), 480 §7, 594 §2
Support of Missionaries, 419 §2
Woman's Foreign Society, Relation of, 429, 430
Forms:
Certificates of Membership, 55
Charges, 595
Constitution Sunday School, 594 §1
Constitution Sunday School Missionary Society, 594 §2
Recognition of Orders, 166, 167
Fraternal Delegates, Expenses of, 182 §25
Freedmen's Aid:
Assistant Treasurers, 453 §3
Board, 452, 453, 536
Collections for, 454 §1
Corresponding Secretaries, 453 §1, 531, 536
Freedmen's Aid Day, 455
Officers of, 453, 536
Pastors, Duty of, 182 §22, 455
Quarterly Conference Questions, 107 §10 (8), 108 §§25 (3), 26 (3), 455
Work of, 451
Free Will (Article), 8
French Course of Study, 637
Frontier Work, Department of, 445
Full Membership:
Reception into, 48 §§3, 4
Ritual for, 514, 515
Funds:
Annuity, Home Missions, etc., 436 §1
Chartered, 342 §1, 493
Children's Day, 460 §§1–3, 470
Church Society, Endowment, 361
Conference Claimants, 334 §2, 340 §2
Conference Sustentation, 324

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Funds (*continued*)
Correspondence, 382 §3
Deaconess, 232 §1, 237 §§2, 3
Loan, Home Missions, etc., 436 §1
Local Preachers, 225, 576
Ministerial Support, 327
Pensions for Teachers, 460 §8
Trust Department, Home Missions, etc., 436 §2

G

Garb, Deaconess, 230 §3, 235 §5, 236 §§3, 8
General Conference:
Adjourned Session, Expenses of, 551
Allowance to Bishops, 330
Amendments to Constitution, 47
Annual Conference, Organization of, 40 §2
Articles of Religion, 46 §1
Auditing and Bonding, 377
Authorization of Papers, 403
Authorization to Editors, 401
Bishops, Election and Consecration, 204, 520
Book Concern
Election of Agents, 388 §1
Election of Book Committee, 380
Report of Book Committee, 382 §1
Report of Agents, 391 §1
Call of Conferences, 554, Rule 7, III
Central Mission Conference, 95 §1
Chartered Fund, 40 §6
Church Temperance Society, Election, 492 §3
Commissions of, 549
Committee on Judiciary, Continued, 291 §2
Committees, 554, Rules 35–53
Conference Claimants, 46 §6
Credentials of Delegates, 40, 43
Decisions
Annual Conference Continuous, 569
Annual Conference, Members of, 565
Appeals, 564
Boundaries, Legal Notice Concerning Change of, 570
General Conference (*cont'd*)
Churches, Consolidation of, 571
Churches, Union with Other, 573
Complaints and Charges, 575
Negotiations Between Preachers and People, 572
Orders, 566
Proceedings, Irregular, 563
Pro Rata Distribution, Ministerial Support, 574
Quarterly Conferences, 568
Supply Preacher, Relief of, 576
Testimony, 562
Vote, Constitutional, 561
Women, Licensing and Ordaining, 567
Delegated Body, 37
Districts, 74 §2, 555
Education, Election, 457 §1, 458 §2
Episcopacy, Not Do Away, 46 §3
Epworth League, Election, 488 §4
Expenses of, 108 §21, 182 §25, 384, 551
Extra Session, 41 §§2, 3
Finance, Commission on, Election, 407 §1
Foreign Missions
Election of Corresponding Secretaries, 415 §1
Honorary Managers, 413 §2
Managers, 414 §2
Freedmen's Aid, Election of Board, 452
General Rules, 46 §4
Home Missions, Election of Board, 432 §1
Journals, Examination of, 79, 95 §8, 556, 557
Judicial
Appeal of Bishop, 291
Appeal of Law Questions, 207 §10
Appeal of Missionary Bishop, 291
Complaint against Bishop's Administration, 206, 245, 251
Investigation of Bishop, 241
Trial of Bishop, 246, 310 §1

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

General Conference (*cont'd*)
Trial of Missionary Bishop, 250, 310 §1
Law Questions
Appeal from Decisions of Bishops, 207 §10
From Judicial Conferences, 300
Decision on, During Sessions, 42 §3
Lay Delegates, 39
Lay Electoral Conference, 39 §1
Location and Entertainment, 41 §§3, 4, 550
Memorials and Resolutions, 553
Ministerial Delegates, 38
Minority Reports, 554, Rule 53
Missionary Bishops, Election and Consecration, 46 §3, 520
Mission Conference, 96 §1
Mission Council of Japan in, 422 §4 (3)
Order of Business, 554, Rule 7
Organization of, 43
Place of Session, 41 §§3, 4, 550
Powers and Restrictions of, 46
Precedence of Motions, 554, Rule 17
Presiding Officers, 42 §2
Previous Question, 554, Rules 16 (6), 19
Qualifications for, 38 §2, 39 §1
Questions of Law, 42 §3
Questions of Order, 42 §3
Quorum, 44
Ratio of Ministerial Representation, 38 §1
Reserve Delegates, 38 §2
Resolutions
American Bible Society, 578
Book Concern Produce to Foreign Conferences, 580
Child Welfare, 585
Colleges, Day of Prayer for, 582
Conference Claimants, Board of, 579
Hospitals, 584
Non-English-Speaking People, Work Among, 587
Social Creed of Churches, 586
Temperance and Prohibition, 583
Voucher, Benevolence, 588
Week of Prayer, 581
Restrictive Rules, 46

General Conference (*cont'd*)
Roll, 43, 554, Rule 1 (c)
Rules of Order, 554
Secretaries, Assistant, 554, Rule 1 (c)
Secretary, 43, 554, Rule 1 (c)
Sessions, 41, 554, Rule 2
Standing Committees, 554, Rules 35–53
Sunday School, Election, 472 §2, 473 §1
Time of Session, 41
Traveling Expenses, 552
Treasurer, Report of, 558
Trial Right of, 46 §5
Trustees Methodist Episcopal Church, 369, 546
Voting
By Orders, 45
Rules for, 554, 25–30
Two-Thirds Vote, 561
General Conference Districts:
Enumeration of, 555
Epworth League Board of Control, 488 §4
For Representative Purposes, 74 §2
General Rules, 26–33, 46 §4, 108 §41, 162 §6, 182 §4
General Superintendents. (See **Bishops**)
German:
Central Deaconess Board, 234 §3
Editor Publications, 400
Editor Sunday School Publications, 472 §6
Ghost, The Holy (Article), 1, 4
God (Article), 1
Gold, Putting on (General Rules), 30
Good, Doing (General Rules), 31
Good Works (Article), 10
Goods, Christian Men's (Article), 24
Goods, Not Paying for (General Rules), 30

H

Haus und Herd, 396, 400, 530 §1
Heresy:
Bishop, 244
In Theological Schools, 212, 255
Layman, 212, 256, 282
Local Preacher, 256, 274
Minister, 212, 254, 255
Missionary Bishop, 249

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Highlanders of South, Education of, 460 §7
Holiness (page 17)
Holy Communion. (See **Lord's Supper**)
Holy Ghost (Articles), 1, 4
Holy Scriptures:
Neglect of, 281
Old Testament (Article), 6
Searching the (General Rules), 32
Sufficiency of (Article), 5
Home Department, 182 §14, 478 §5 (4)
Home Missions and Church Extension:
Administration of Missions, 449
Annual Conference Boards, 447
Appropriations for Cities, 439 §5
Board
Annuity Fund, 436 §1
Composition of, 432 §1
Corresponding Secretary, 432 §1, 434 §1, 435 §§1, 3, 8, 531, 535
Duties of, 433
Executive Committee, 434
Headquarters of, 431 §1, 535
Incorporation of, 431
Loan Fund, 436 §1
Meetings of, 432 §3
Ministerial Members a Judicial Conference, 278 §2
Officers of, 435, 535
Purpose of, 431
Trust Department, 436 §2
Vacancy in, 432 §2
Church Location and Erection, Boards of, 448
City Societies
Appointments Under, 441 §3
Apportionments, 441 §4
Collections, 441 §4, 442 §2
Conditions for Appropriations, 441 §5
Council of Cities, 441 §6
Disbursements, 441 §4
Interest of Annual Conferences, 442 §3
Organization of, 440, 442 §1
Report of, 439 §§4, 6
Represented in Quarterly Conferences, 441 §2
Work of, 441 §1
Council of Cities, 441 §6
Home Missions and Church Extension (*continued*)
Departments
Church Extension, 438
City Work, 439 §§1–3, 441 §6, 442 §1
Evangelism, 446
Frontier Work, 445
Organization of, 437 §2
Rural Work, 443
Superintendents of, 435 §4, 437 §2
District Superintendent, Statement of, 190 §19
Sunday Schools, Monthly Collection, 428 §5, 480 §7
Hospitals, 584

I

Immigrants, Work Among, 230 §4
Immoral Conduct. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Imprudent Conduct. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Incorporation:
Churches, 353
Conferences, 74 §1, 80 §1
Funds, 334 §2
India, Orders in, 181
Insolvency, 286 §§1, 2
Institutions. (See **Boards**)
Insurance, 108 §33, 190 §9, 350 (7)
Intoxicating Liquors. (See **Temperance**)
Investigation. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Irregular Proceedings, 264, 563
Italian:
Boundary of Mission, 500 §4
Course of Study, 631–633
District Superintendent, Presidency of, 449 §3

J

Japan:
Courses of Study, 638
John Street Trustees, 547
Joint Session, Annual and Lay, 335 §2
Missionaries in, 422 §4 (1)
Representatives in General Conference, 422 §4 (3)
Union of Mission Councils in, 442 §4 (2)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Journal:
Central Mission Conference, 95 §8
Examination of Annual, 79, 556, 557
Final General Conference, Approval, 44
Rulings in Annual, 313 §14
Judicial Administration:
Appeals
Appellate Court, 313 §6
Bishop, 246, 291, 313 §8
Church Member, 306, 307, 309 §2, 313 §9
Court of Appeals, 306 §§2–4
Death of Appellant, 313 §3
Death of Minister, 564 §2
Local Preacher, 304, 305
Member of Conference, 292–300, 313 §8, 564
Missionary Bishop, 291, 313 §8
Questions of Law, 313 §13
Right Forfeited, 313 §2
Triers of, 291 §§1, 2
Errors of Law or Administration, 264 §§2, 3
Complaints and Charges, 575
Forms of Charges
Immoral Conduct, 595 §2
Imprudent Conduct, 595 §3
Neglect of Means of Grace, 595 §4
Unchristian Conduct, 595 §3
Heresy
Bishop, 244
Layman, 256
Local Preacher, 256, 274
Member of Conference, 212, 254, 255
Missionary Bishop, 249
Immoral Conduct
Bishop, 241
Church Member, 279
Form of Charges, 241, 595 §2
Local Preacher, 271
Member of Conference, 252, 266
Missionary Bishop, 247
Improper Tempers, etc.
Local Preacher, 273 §1
Member of Conference, 258
Imprudent Conduct
Bishop, 242
Form of Charges, 595 §3
Church Member, 280
Judicial Administration (*continued*)
Member of Conference, 252 §4
Missionary Bishop, 248
Investigation, 241–245, 247–249, 252–263
Challenge, 312 §3
Charges, 311, 595
Counsel, 310
Errors in Judicial Proceedings, 264 §2
Hasty Charges, 311 §1
Irregularity of Reception not Barred, 563 §3
Judicial Conference, 292–300
Judicial Procedure Terminating Conference Membership, 173, 252–269
Lower Offense and Penalty, 82, 266
Notification, 312
Presiding Officer, 312 §4
Records, 309
Slander, Charge of, 311 §4
Testimony, 308 §§1, 2, 562
Trial of Bishop
Complaint against Administration, 245
False Doctrines, 244
Forms of Charges, 595
General Conference Procedure, 246
Imprudent Conduct, 242
Investigation of, 241
New Evidence, 313 §8
Offense beyond District, 243
Right of Challenge, 241
Trial of Church Member
Causing Dissension, 282
Censure, 289
Challenge, 287
Committee for, 287
Debt, 284
Disagreement in Business, 283, 284
Erroneous Teaching, 256
Expulsion, 288, 563 §§1, 4
Forms of Charges, 595
Immoral Conduct, 279
Imprudent Conduct, 280
Insolvency, 286
Intoxicating Liquors, 279 §2
Neglect of Means of Grace, 281

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Judicial Administration (*continued*)
New Evidence, 313 §9
Penalties, 288–290
Preparatory Members Not to Take Part, 48 §2
Privileges after Expulsion, 290
Right of Trial, 46 §5
Rights Affected by Administration, 264 §3
Trier of Appeals, 108 §10, 306 §1
Trial of Local Preacher
Another Quarterly Conference, 276
By District or Quarterly Conference, 271
Credentials, 271, 273 §2
Debts, 275
Failure in Business, 275
False Doctrines, 256, 274
Forms of Charges, 595
Holding Religious Services, 273 §3
Improper Temper, etc., 273 §1
In Missions, 278
Investigation of, 271
Rights Affected by Administration, 264 §3
Right to Challenge, 277
Select Number, 272
Suspension or Expulsion, 220 §4, 271 §1, 273 §1
Trial of Member of Conference
Annual Conference Powers, 262
Annual Conference Question, 80 §§19–21
Claim on Funds During Suspension, 299
Commissioner, to Take Evidence, 265 §2
Death of, 564 §2
Debt on Dispute, 285
Deposed, not Expelled, from Church, 267 §1
Deprivation of Office and Credentials, 266, 298
Divorce, Violation of Advice, 264 §1
Errors in Judicial Proceedings, 264 §2
Errors of Law or Administration, 264 §§2, 3
Judicial Administration (*continued*)
Expulsion, 80 §21, 298, 563 §2
Failure in Business, 259
Failure to Do Work, 257
False Doctrines, 254, 255, 267 §2
Forms of Charges, 595
Holding Religious Meetings, 253
Improper Temper, etc., 258
Imprudence and Unministerial Conduct, 266
Investigation of, 252 §§1–3, 262
Maladministration, 264 §1
Methods of Trial, 265
New Evidence, 313 §8
Papers of Investigation, 261
Privileges after Expulsion, 268
Residing beyond Conference Bounds, 260
Right of Challenge, 265 §3
Right of Trial, 446 §5
Rights Affected by Administration, 264 §3
Suspension, 252 §§3, 4, 298
Termination of Conference Membership, 173
Unacceptable or Inefficient, 263
Withdrawal, 80 §19, §20, 269
Trial of Missionary Bishop
Complaint against Administration, 251
False Doctrines, 249
Forms of Charges, 595
General Conference Procedure, 250
Imprudent Conduct, 248
Investigation of, 247
New Evidence, 313 §8
Right of Challenge, 247
Trial of Preacher on Trial, 270
Trials
Absence of Accused, 308 §3
Absence of Witness, 308 §2
Amendments to Charges, 311 §§2, 3
Triers of Appeals
Committee on Judiciary, 291 §§1, 2
Court of Appeals, 292 §§1, 2
Judicial Conference, 292–297

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Judicial Conference:
Appeal from Bishop's Rulings, 313 §13
Appeals of Preachers to, 263, 296
Conferences in United States, 297
Conferences Not in United States, 297
Constituted, 292 §2, 293
Expenses of, 182 §25, 384 §1
Law Questions Reviewed by General Conference, 300
Ministerial Members Board of Home Missions, 271 §2
Notice of Appeal, 296
Papers Returned, 300
Procedure, 295
Records to General Conference, 300
Triers of Appeals, 241, 292–294
Judiciary, Committee on, 291 §§1, 2, 554, Rule 36
Junior Epworth League, 52, 182 §12, 492 §2
Justification (Articles), 9, 12

K

Kansas City:
Central Christian Advocate, 530
Depository at, 394 §1, 529
Korea, Courses of Study, 591

L

Ladies' Aid Societies:
District Conference, 97, 101 §6, 378
Organization of, 378 §1
Pastor, Duty of, 182 §13
Quarterly Conference, 104, 107 §7, 108 §12 (7)
Law:
Appeal from Bishop's Decision, 207 §10
Bishop's Decisions, 207 §10
Errors of, 264 §2
Review by General Conference, 300
Law, Going to (General Rule), 30
Lay Delegates:
Removal from Boards, General Conference Delegates, 39 §5
Reserves to General Conference, 39 §4
Lay Delegates (*continued*)
To General Conference, 37, 39
To Lay Electoral Conference, 39 §1, 93
Lay Electoral Conference:
Amendments of Constitution, 47
Challenge of Delegates-elect to General Conference, 43
Credentials to General Conference, 40
Delegates to General Conference, 37, 39
Election of Delegates to, 93
How Constituted, 39 §1
Joint Session with Conference, 335 §2
Organization of, 39 §3
Place of, 39 §2
Special Sessions, 41 §3
Time of, 39 §2,
Laymen:
Associations, 94
In Annual Conference, Proposed Change, 577
Violation of Pledge, Theological School, 256
Leaders, Class:
Admonition by, 279 §2, 280
Church Papers, 61 §2 (9)
Conversation with Pastors, 61 §4
Course of Reading, 64 §2
Duty (General Rules), 28, 61 §3
Holding Classes Together, 62
Improper, 64 §1
Method of Conducting Class, 63
Report to Quarterly Conference, 61 §2
Leaders and Stewards' Meeting:
Baptized Children, 53, 54
Holding of, 113
Official Board Substitute for, 320
Recommendation of Exhorters, 227
Recommendation of Local Preachers, 219
Stewards to Attend, 317
Legislation, 48–525
License:
Deaconesses, 236
District Conference, 102 §4 (2, 3), 219

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

License (*continued*)
District Superintendent, 190 §6
Exhorter, 227
In Missions, 449 §1
Local Preacher, 220 §1
To Preach, Examination for, 600
Women, 567
License System, The, 583
Loans. (See **Boards** and **Societies**
Local Book Committee. (See **Book Concern, The Methodist**)
Local Church, Organization of, 193
Local Deacon and Elder, 80 §12 (a), §13 (a), 102 §4 (5), 108 §30, 176 §1, 179 §1, 220 §3, 303
Local Preachers:
Amenable to Quarterly Conference, 108 §28, 220 §2, 221 §1
Appeal of, 278 §2, 304, 305
Certificate of Standing, 221 §§1, 2
Course of Study, 601, 602
Credentials of, 221 §5, 273 §2
Deprived of Office and Credentials, 221 §1
District Conference, 101 §2, 102 §2 (2) §3 (3) §4, 219
Employment of, 222
Endowment Fund for, 226, 576
Enrolled in Classes, 223
Examination of, 102 §1 (2), 220 §§2, 3
License in Missions, 449 §1
Membership when Located, 221 §4
Quarterly Conference Supervision, 107 §2, 108 §28, §29 (a, b) §30, §31, §32, 219, 220
Recommended to Annual Conference, 108 §§30–32, 219, 220 §3
Relief of, 225, 576
Remuneration of, 224
Report of, 102 §3 (3), 108 §12 (2), 223
Suspension of, 220 §4
To Baptize and Marry, 159, 221 §3
Trial of, 270–278
Violation of Pledge, Theological Schools, 256
Location of Preacher, 80 §17, §18, 164, 169, 170, 221 §4, 263
Lord's Supper:
Articles of Religion, 16, 18, 19
Attending the (General Rules), 32
Deacon to Assist, 175
Duty of Pastor, 182 §16
Elder to Administer, 178
Elements for, 317
Neglect of, 281
Ritual for, 516
Sacrament, A (Article), 16
Love Feasts, 182 §8

M

Magistrates, Speaking Evil of (General Rules), 30
Maladministration, 264
Malaysia, Courses of Study, 638
Managers. (See **Boards and Societies**)
Marriage:
Advice on, 67
By Deacon, 175
By Elder, 178
By Local Preachers, 159, 221 §3
By Retired Ministers, 188
By Supernumerary, 187
By Unordained Preachers, 159, 221 §3
Not a Sacrament (Article), 16
Of Ministers (Article), 21
Pastors to Keep Register, 182 §27
Ritual for, 517
Violation of Advice on, 264 §1
Means of Grace (General Rules), 32, 130–132
Member of the Church:
Affiliated, 57
Attending Class, 61 §2
Baptized Children and Church, 49
Constituency Roll, 48 §6
Counsel in Trial of Bishop, 310 §1
Dismissal by Certificate, 182 §3, 183 §2 (5)
From Orthodox Church, 48 §4
Full, 48 §3
Membership How Terminated, 59 §2
New Trial of, 313 §9
Non-Resident, 58

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Member of the Church (*cont'd*)
Preparatory, 48 §2
Preparatory, not Members of Quarterly Conference, etc., 48 §2
Received by Certificate, 182 §3, 183 §2 (4)
Record to be Kept, 48 §5
Transfer of, 55
Trial of. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Withdrawal, 59
Memorials to General Conference, 554, Rules 31–34
Methodism, Federal Council of, 591
Methodism, Rise of (page 17)
Methodist Advocate-Journal, 397 §§1, 7, 530 §1
Methodist Episcopal Church:
Articles of Religion, 1–25
Constitution of, 1–47
General Rules of, 26–33
Historical Sacrament, 17–21
Organization of (page 19)
Ritual, 511–525
Trustees of, 369–376, 546
Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 589, 590
Methodist Review, 396, 530 §1
Midyear Institute, 599 §1
Minister (including Pastor, Preacher, Preacher-in-Charge):
Absence from Charge, 191
Benevolences
Chartered Fund, 493 §2
Conference Claimants, 182 §22, 340 §2
Deaconess Fund, 232 §1
Disciplinary Plan for, 87
Donation for Methodist Episcopal Church, 372
Episcopal Fund, 331
General Conference Expenses, 384
Money Forwarded Quarterly, 588
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Collection for, 430 §1
Book Concern, Debts of, 392
Children
Approval for Full Membership, 53
Certificate of Registration, 51
Minister (including Pastor, Preacher, Preacher-in-Charge (*continued*)
Deprived of Guardianship, 54
Enrollment as Preparatory Members, 51
Organized into Classes or Leagues, 52
Registration, Certificates Issued, 51
Church Membership
Approval for Full, 48 §3
Certificate of Transfer, 55 §§1–5
Changes in, 48 §5
Instruction of Preparatory, 48 §2
Members of Family, 55 §6
Notice to Member Transferring, 55 §2
Reception of Members by Certificate, 55 §3
Record of Membership, 48 §5
Record of Transfers, 55 §4
Withdrawals, 59 §1
Class Leaders
Appointment of Leaders, etc., 182 §2
Combining Classes, 62
Conversation with, 61 §4
Examination of, 64 §2
Conference
Admission into Full Membership, 161–163
Admission of Absent Missionaries, 163
Attendance at, 75
Change in Place of, 77
Delegates to General Conference, 38
Deposed, 267 §1
Election of Delegates, 38
Employment of Rejected Preacher, 192
Expenses of General Conference, 182 §25, 384 §1
Expulsion from, 267 §2, 288, 299
From Other Churches, 165–167
Leave of Absence, 186
Location of, 169, 170
Missionary Work, 160
Readmission, 80 §3, 164
Reception on Credentials, 80 §4, 165–167

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Minister (including Pastor, Preacher, Preacher-in-Charge, etc. (*continued*)
Reception on Trial, 156–160
Refusal to Admit, 190 §21
Reports to, 183 §1
Restoration of Credentials, 301, 302
Retired, 188, 565 §2
Right of Trial, 46 §5
Statistical Report, 88 §2, §3, 90 §1, 91
Supernumerary, 187, 565 §2
Surrender of Ministerial Office, 171
Suspension, 252 §3, 298
Special Appointments, 208 §§3, 4
Termination of Membership, 169–173
Vote on Constitutional Question, 38 §3, 565 §3
Withdrawal from, 172 §§1, 2
Debts, 259, 392 §2
Disagreement in Business, 285
Education
Chairman Committee on, 468 §1
Children's Day, 470
Duties as to, 469 §1
Epworth League, Control of Chapter, 488 §3
Evangelist, Engaging, 184
Exhorter, License of, 182 §7, 227
Failure in Business, 259
Foreign Missions
Chairman Committee on, 427 §2
Duty as to, 428 §1–6
Freedmen's Aid, 182 §22, 454 §2, 455
General Duties, 182
House for, 368
In Official Positions, 168
Insolvency, 259
Ladies' Aid Societies, 378 §4
Local Preacher
Admonition of, 273 §1
Business or Debts of, 275
Certificate to, 221 §1
Filling Place, 224
Investigation of, 271
Substitute for Pastor, 224
Marriage of (Article), 21
Mortgage on Property, 360

Minister (including Pastor, Preacher, Preacher-in-Charge, etc. (*continued*)
Preaching Place, Discontinuance of, 185
Quarterly Conference, Report to, 183 §2
Service in Church, Prevention of, 351
Sunday Schools
Attention to Children, 480 §4
Books, 480 §1
Chairman of Board, 477 §2
Committee, Quarterly Conference, 480 §1
Duty, 480 §§1–6
Instructing Children, 480 §3
Interests of, 182 §§22, 26
Rally Day, 480 §6
Report to Quarterly Conference, 480 §5
Support
General, 319–322, 325, 326
Pro Rata Distribution, 87, 327, 328 §7, 331, 574
Produce of Book Concern, 46 §6
Relief of (General Rules), 28 §1
Temperance, Duty as to, 492 §7
Trial of Church Member
Admonition, 279 §2, 280–282
Appeals, 313 §9
Counsel in, 310 §3
Hasty Charges, 311 §1
Imprudent Conduct, 280
Insolvency, 286
New Trial, 313 §9
Presidency at, 287
Questions of Law, 313 §13
Records of, 309 §2
Testimony of Absent Witness, 308 §2
Theological Schools, 466 §5
Ministerial Delegates. (See **Delegates**)
Ministers, Speaking Evil of (General Rules), 30
Ministry of the Word (General Rules), 32
Mission Conferences:
Administration of Foreign, 422 §3
Commission on Finance, 409 §1
Constituted, 96 §1

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Mission Conferences (*cont'd*)
Definition, 96
President of, 96 §4, 435 §8
Superintendent of, 96 §3
Support of Charges, 96 §§5, 6
Missions:
Administration of, 449
Admission of Absent Missionary, 163
Appeal of Local Preacher, 305
Appropriations from Board of Home Missions, 435 §8
Commission on Finance, 409 §1
Deaconess Board in, 240
In Central Mission Conference, 95 §§1, 2, 4, 5
Investigation of Minister, 260
Investigation of Superintendent, 260
Other than English, 449 §2
Presidency of, 435 §8, 449 §1
Schools in, 466 §2
Trials
Of Local Preacher, 278 §1
Judicial Conference, 278 §2
Missionary Bishop:
Amenable to, 195
Appeal to General Conference, 291
Board of Foreign Missions, 414 §§2, 3
Ceasing to Perform Duty, 202
Complaint Against Administration of, 251
Cooperation with Board of Foreign Missions, 201
Coordinate Authority, 198, 199
Death of, 202
Election of, 46 §3, 197
Erroneous Doctrine, 249
Names Printed, 200
Not General Superintendent, 196, 197
Powers and Jurisdiction, 194
Presidency of Central Mission Conference, 95 §3
Residences in Southern Asia, 95 §9
Specific Assignment, 197
Supervision of Deaconess Work, 240 §2
Support of, 195
Transfer of Preachers, 203
Trial
At General Conference, 250, 251
Missionary Bishop (*continued*)
Charges Against Missionary Bishop, 247–249
Counsel, 310 §1
Imprudent Conduct, 248
Investigation, 247–249
New Trial, 318 §8
See **Judiciary Administration**
Morals, Public, Board of, 492
Mortgaging Church Property, 352, 360, 361
Moving Expenses, 323 §2
Music, Committee on, 73 §4, 107 §10 (13), 321

N

Negotiations, Preacher and People, 572
Neglect of Means of Grace, 281
New Orleans:
Episcopal Residence, 526
Southwestern Christian Advocate, 396, 530 §1
New York:
Book Concern, The Methodist, 379 §1, 529
Book Editor, 530 §2
Christian Advocate, 396, 530 §1
Corresponding Secretaries, 531
Editors, 530 §1
Education, Board of, 537
Episcopal Residence, 526
Foreign Missions, Board of, 534
Local Book Committee, 380 §2, 533 §2
Publishing Agent at, 388 §3, 529
Treasurers, 532
Non-English-Speaking People, Work Among, 587
Non-Resident Members:
Definition of, 58
Not Reckoned in Apportionments, 90 §6
Northwestern Advocate:
Editor, 397 §1, §3, 530 §1
Territory of, 397 §9
Nova Scotia (page 19)

O

Oath, Christian Man's (Article), 25
Official Board:
Baptized Children, 53, 54

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Official Board (*continued*)
Benevolences and Current Expenses, 321
Definition of, 112
Finance Committee, etc., 112 §2, 321
Meetings, 112 §1, 320
Ministerial Support, 319–322
Recommendation for Full Membership, 48 §3
Stewards to Attend, 317
Substitute for Leaders and Stewards' Meeting, 320
Old Testament (Article), 6
Order of Public Worship, 72
Orders:
Deacons, 80 §8, §12, 174, 175
Elders, 80 §11, §13, 177–181
Examinations Necessary, 566
Ministers from Other Churches, 166, 167
Not a Sacrament (Article), 16
Recognition of, 102 §4 (5), 219, 220 §3
Recognition of, Committee on, 81 §5
Roman Catholic Priest, 566 §2
Orders, Voting by, 45
Ordination:
At Conference, 83, 174–181
Committee on Conference Relations, 81 §5
Women, 567
Organizations, Corporate Names of, 548
Original Sin (Article), 7
Other Evangelical Churches:
Reception from, 48 §4
Recommendation to, 56 §2

P

Pacific Christian Advocate, 397 §1, §5, 530
Papers, Conference or Local, 403
Parsonages, 363, 364–368
Pastor. (See **Minister**)
Penance, Not a Sacrament (Article), 16
Periodicals, Etc.:
Committee at Conference, 86, 392 §1
Correspondence Fund, 382 §3
Discontinuance of, 382 §2
Permanent Fund:
Board of Conference Claimants, 334
Held by Trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church, 374
Pilmoor, Joseph (page 18)
Pittsburgh Christian Advocate:
Advocate, Office of, 530 §1
Election of Editor, 398
Publishing Committee, 402
Territory of, 397 §9
Post Office Addresses:
Administrative Boards
American Bible Society, 542
Book Committee, 533
Chartered Fund, 545
Conference Claimants, 540
Deaconess, General, 544
Education, 537
Epworth League, 541
Foreign Missions, 534
Freedmen's Aid, 536
Home Missions and Church Extension, 535
Local Book Committee, Cincinnati, 533 §3
Local Book Committee, New York, 533 §2
Sunday Schools, 539
Temperance, Prohibition, and Public Morals, 543
Trustees, John Street, 547
Trustees, Methodist Episcopal Church, 546
University Senate, 538
Bishops, 526
Corresponding Secretaries, 531
Editors, 530
Missionary Bishops, 527
Publishing Agents, 529
Secretary General Conference, 528
Treasurers and Assistants, 532
Prayer:
Baptized Children to Learn Lord's, 511
Family (General Rules), 32
For Colleges, 581
Neglect of, 281
Private (General Rules), 32
Week of, 581
Prayer Meetings:
Neglect of, 281
Pastor to Appoint, 182 §5
Preachers' Aid Societies, 334 §2

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Preaching:
Call, 114
Deportment at Conference, 140, 141
Pastoral Fidelity, 147–155
Rules for Conduct, 115–126
Spiritual Qualifications, 127–134
Union Among Ourselves, 138, 139
Use of Time, 135–137
Where and How to Preach, 142–146
Preaching Place, Discontinuance of, 185
Preparatory Membership, 48 §2, 90 §7, 108 §11 (15, 16), 182 §3
Prisons, Chaplains in, 208 §3 (4)
Pro Rata Distribution, 87, 96 §2, 327, 328 §7, 331, 574
Procedure. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Proceedings, Irregular, 563
Prohibition, 583
Property, Conveyance of. (See **Trustees**)
Public Worship:
Attending (General Rules), 32
Neglect of, 281
Order of, 72
Publications:
Committee at Conference, 86, 392 §1
Conference or Local Papers, 403
Discontinuance of, 382 §2
Sale at Conference, 403
Publishing Agent. (See **Book Concern, The Methodist**)
Purgatory (Article), 14

Qualifications:
Lay Delegates, 39 §5
Ministerial Delegates, 38 §2
Preacher, 114–155
Stewards, 315
Trustees, Church Property, 345
Quarterly Conferences:
Budget of Benevolences and Current Expenses, 321, 322
Composition of, 35, 104
Conference Claimants
Estimate for, 108 §16, §17, 338
Quarterly Conferences (*cont'd*)
Funds for, 340 §2
Deaconesses
Approval by Quarterly Conference, 108 §28, 236 §6
Member of Quarterly Conference, 104, 236 §6
Delegates to Lay Conference, Certificate, 93 §5
District Conference, Discontinuance of, 103
Duties of, 107
Education
Committee on, 468 §1
Inquiries at Quarterly Conference, 108 §25, §26, §35, §36, 468 §2
Epworth League Chapter, 107 §6, 488 §3
Exhorters, 107 §2, 108 §28, 228
Foreign Missions
Committee on, 427 §2
Funds for, 427 §1
Inquiry at Quarterly Conference, 108 §§25, 26
Freedmen's Aid
Collection for, 454 §1
Committee on, 454 §2
Quarterly Conference Inquiry, 108 §§25, 26.
Italian Mission, License of Preachers, 449 §3
Judicial
Appeal of Member, 306 §4, 564 §1
Credentials, Restoration of, 301, 303
Trier of Appeals Selected, 306 §1
Trustees, Removal of, 568 §1
Withdrawals, Retraction of, 59 §1
Ladies' Aid
Oversight of, 107 §7
President a Member, 108 §8 (4), 378 §2
Reports from, 108 §12 (7), 378 §§2, 3
Local Preachers
Amenability of, 107 §2, 221 §1
Appeal of, 304
Certificate of, 221 §2
Character Examined, 108 §28
Examination of, 220 §§2, 3
Expulsion of, 220 §4, 271

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Quarterly Conferences (*cont'd*)
License in Missions, 449 §1
License of, 108 §29, 220 §1
Membership in Quarterly Conference, 221 §4
Orders, Recommendation for, 108 §30, §31, 176 §1, 179 §1, 220 §3
Recommendation to Annual Conference, 108 §32, 157 §1, 220 §3
Recommendation to District Conference, 108 §29, 219
Report of, 108 §12 (2), 223
Suspension of, 220 §4, 271
Trial of, 220 §4, 271, 273 §1, §2, 276, 277
Trial in Missions, 278 §1
Membership, Changes in, 48 §5
Ministers from Other Churches, 165 §1
Music, Committee on, 73 §4
Order of Business, 108
Organization of, 35, 104
Powers of, 35, 106
Preparatory Members Not Members of, 48 §2
President of, 105
Retired Ministers, 188
Retired Ministers Without Bounds, 568 §2
Secretary of, 93 §5, 105 §2, 309 §3
Stewards
Change of, 318
Communion, 107 §4, 108 §4 (d), 314
Dismissal of, 318
District, 107 §4, 108 §4 (b), 314
Election of, 107 §4, 108 §§3–5, 316
Members of Quarterly Conference, 104
Recording, 107 §4, 108 §4 (a), 314
Reserve District, 107 §4, 108 §4 (c), 314
Substitute for Official Board, 321
Sunday Schools
Committee on, 107 §10 (4), 479 §2, 481
Oversight of, 107 §5
Pastor's Report, 183 §2 (II), 480 §5
Quarterly Conferences (*cont'd*)
Superintendent's Report, 108 §12 (4), 478 §5
Supernumerary Ministers, 187
Supernumerary Ministers Without Bounds, 568 §2
Support of Ministry, 107 §9
Temperance, 492 §7
Tracts, Committee on, 107 §10 (5), 405
Trier of Appeals, 108 §10, 306 §1
Trustees
Committee on Parsonages, 368
Election of, 348
Estimate for Building, 358
Members of Quarterly Conference, 104
Report of, 108 §12 (10), 350
Sale of Property, 361
Two Treasurers, etc., Election of, 410 §5
Woman's Foreign Society, 107 §8
Woman's Home Society, 107 §8
Quarterly Meetings, 182 §8
Quarterly Remittances, 410 §6, 588
Quorum:
Book Committee, 381 §2
General Conference, 44
Standing Committees, General Conference, 554, Rule 43
Trial of Local Preacher, 277
See also **Boards** and **Societies.**

R

Rally Day, Sunday School, 477 §5, 480 §6
Readmission to Conference, 80 §3, 164
Reception:
Into Church, 48, 53, 108 §11 (2–5), 182 §3, 183 §2 (2–4)
Into Ministry, 80 §4, 156–167
On Trial in Conference, 80 §5, 81 §2, 156–160, 219, 220 §3
Preparatory, 48 §2, 50, 108 §11 (15), 182 §3
Recommendation, Note of, 56 §2
Recording Secretaries, Appointment of, 208 §3 (1)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Recording Stewards, 105 §2, 107 §4, 108 §4, 309 §2, 314
Records:
Examination of Church, 110
In Investigations and Trials, 309
Membership, 48 §5
Pastor's Family, 55 §6
Transfer of Members, 55 §4
Reformatories, Chaplains to, 208 §3 (4)
Refusal to Work, Minister, 257
Relation Changed, Reference to Committee, 81 §4
Relief Fund, Deaconess, 238
Relief Societies, Conference, 343 §5
Removal Without Certificate, 58, 108 §11 (9), (20), 183 §2 (9)
Representation, General Conference, 38 §1
Reproach of Christ (General Rules), 31
Reserve Delegates, General Conference, 38 §2, 39 §4
Residential Episcopal Supervision, 560
Restoration of Credentials, 301–303
Restrictive Rules, 46
Resurrection of Christ (Article), 3
Retired Bishops, 216–218, 329 §2
Retired Deaconesses, 237
Retired Ministers:
Annual Conference Question, 80 §24
Baptisms by, 188
Certificate to Conference, 188
Change of Boundaries, 565 §2
Claim of, 188, 333 §2, 341 §1
Marriages by, 188
Produce of Book Concern, 46 §6
Pro Rata, 87, 328 §7, 331, 574
Support of, 333–344
Quarterly Conference Membership, 188, 568 §2
Retired Missionaries, Support of, 419 §1
Riches, Laying Up (General Rules), 30
Rights, Affected by Errors or Administration, 264 §§2, 3
Rites and Ceremonies (Article), 22
Ritual:
Baptism, Adults, 512
Baptism, Infants, 511
Burial of Children, 519
Burial of Dead, 518
Consecration of Bishops, 520
Consecration of Deaconesses, 523
Dedication of Church, 525
Laying Corner Stone, 524
Lord's Supper, 516
Matrimony, 517
Ordination of Deacons, 522
Ordination of Elders, 521
Reception Into Church, 514
Reception of Children, 515
Reception of Preparatory Members, 513
Roman Catholic Priests, Orders of, 566 §2
Rules:
General, 26–33, 182 §4
Instruction in, 48 §2
Observance of, 61 §3
Of General Conference, 554
Restrictive, 46
Rural Work:
Cooperation of Department of Evangelism, 446 §2
Department of, 443
Societies, 444

S

Sabbath Breaking (General Rules) 30
Sacraments:
Baptism, 16, 17 (Articles), 182 §27, 511, 512
Lord's Supper, 16, 18, 19 (Articles), 516
Number of (Article), 16
Privileges for Expelled Member, 290
Privileges for Expelled Minister, 268
Purposes of (Article), 16
San Francisco:
Depository at, 394 §1, 529
Episcopal Residence, 526
Sanatoriums, Chaplains in, 208 §3 (4)
Sanctification. (See **Holiness**)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Schools:
District Superintendents, Duty of, 190 §13, 468 §2, 20
Heresy in Theological, 255, 256
See **Education**
Scriptures:
Neglect of, 281
Searching the, 131 §2
Sufficiency of (Article), 5
Testament, The Old (Article), 6
Seamen, Preachers for, 208 §3 (5)
Seats, Free, 357
Secretaries:
Annual Conference
Appeal to Judicial Conference, 296
Credentials to Ministerial Delegates, 40
Drafts on Chartered Fund, 493 §5
Election, 79
Judicial Conference Findings, 295
Record of Conference Proceedings, 79
Record of Trials, 265 §3, 309 §§1, 3
Trial of Minister, 265 §3
City Missions, Appointment of, 208 §3 (8)
Corresponding Secretaries
Appointment by Bishop, 208 §3 (1)
Assistant, 407 §1
Commission on Finance, 407 §1
Election of (See **Boards** and **Societies**)
District Conferences, 100, 309 §3
District Missionary, 424 §1, 426
District Stewards' Meeting, 327
General Conference
Address, P. O., 528
Assistants, 554, Rule 1 (c)
Appeal of Bishop or Missionary Bishop, 291 §§1, 3
Call of Roll, 43, 554 Rule 1
Election of, 554 Rule 1 (c)
Judicial Conference, Records of, 295
Nomination of Editors, 396, 397 §8
Trial of Bishop, 246
Secretaries (*continued*)
Trial of Missionary Bishop, 250
Investigations or Trials
Appointment of Secretary, 309 §1
Attestation of Records, 309 §1
Members of Church, 309 §2
Judicial Conference
Appointment of, 295
Findings to Secretary Annual Conference, 295
Records to Secretary General Conference, 295
Lay Electoral Conference, 39 §3, 40
Official Board, 112 §1
Quarterly Conference, 93 §5, 105 §2, 309 §3
Select Number:
Appeal of Local Preacher, 304
Trial of Minister, 265 §3, 266
Self-Indulgence (General Rules), 30
Settlement Day, 327
Sin:
After Justification (Article), 12
Original (Article), 7
Singing:
Order of Worship, 72
Spirit and Truth of, 73
Unprofitable Songs (General Rules), 30
Slavery:
Advice of, 65
Buying or Selling Slaves (General Rules), 30
Smuggling (General Rules), 30
Social Creeds of Churches, 586
Societies. (See Boards)
Societies:
Conference Sustentation Fund, 324
Local, in Pastoral Charge, 34
United (page 15)
Society:
Condition for Admission (General Rules), 29
Endowment Fund for, 361
Privileges for Expelled Member, 290
Privileges for Expelled Minister, 268
Rise of United (General Rules), 27

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Softness (General Rules), 30
South, Education of Highlanders, 460 §7
Southern Asia, Missionary Bishops, 95 §9
Southwestern Christian Advocate, 396, 530
Spanish Course of Study, 635
Speaking in Strange Tongue (Article), 15
Special Advices. (See **Advices**)
Special Gifts, Foreign Missions, 418
Special Sessions:
Annual Conference, 41 §3
General Conference, 41 §§2, 3
Lay Electoral Conference, 41 §3
Spiritual Qualifications, Preacher, 127–134
Standing Committees:
Annual Conference, 86
General Conference, 554, Rules 35–39, 43–53
Statistics:
Blanks, 89
Duties of Conference Statistician, 88, 90
Reports of Pastors, 88–91
Stewards:
Accountability of, 318
Accounts of, 182 §15
Communion, 107 §4, 108 §4, 314
District, 107 §4, 108 §4, 314, 326, 327
Duties of, 317
Election, 107 §4, 108 §4, 316
House for Minister, 367
In New Churches, 193
Leader to Meet, 28 §2.
Leaders and Stewards' Meetings, To Attend, 317
Ministerial Support, 319–322, 323
Nomination of, 316
Number of, 314
Qualifications of, 315
Recording, 107 §4, 108 §4, 314
Recording, Secretary of Quarterly Conference, 105 §2
Reserve District, 107 §4, 108 §4, 314
When No Trustees, 367
Stewards' Conference:
Claim of Minister Unpaid, 325
Duties of, 339 §§1–4
Election of, 339 §1
Stewardship, Christian (Advice), 71, 108 §15, 182 §17
Strawbridge, Robert (page 18)
Sunday Schools:
At District Conference, 101 §4
Board
Books, 480 §1
Composition of, 472
Corresponding Secretary, 472 §2, §5, 473, 531
Duty of, 472 §3
Editor Sunday School Publications, 396, 472 §2, §3, §5, 474, 530
German Editor, 400, 472 §6, 530
Incorporation, etc., 472 §1
Officers, 475, 539
Children's Day, 108 §35 (d), (e), 470
Children's Fund, 460 §§1, 2, 5
Collection for Board, 108 §25 (4), §26 (4), 477 §5, 480 §6
Conference Board, 476
Constituency Roll, 48 §5
Constitution for School, 594 §1
Constitution Missionary Society, 594 §2
Contributions to Board of Foreign Missions, 430 §1
District Superintendent, 479
Foreign Missions
Diffusion of Information, 428 §2
District Superintendents, 427 §1
Division of Moneys, 428 §5
Missionary Society, 424 §5
Monthly Offering, 108 §26 (1), 428 §5, 480 §7
Support of, 428 §1
Home Department, 182 §14, 478 §4 (4)
Local Board, 477
Local Committee, 107 §10 (4), 477 §2
Officers and Teachers, 477 §2, 478 §§1–4
Organization by City Society, 441 §1
Pastor, Duty of, 480
Quarterly Conference Committee
Appointment of, 107 §10 (4)
Duty of Committee, 481
Members Local Board, 477 §2

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Sunday Schools (*continued*)
Rally Day, 477 §5, 480 §6
Superintendent
Member Local Board, 477 §2
Member Committee on Missions, 427 §2
Rally Day, 477 §5
Report of, 478 §5
Temperance, 492 §§2, 7
Sunday League, Appointment to, 208 §3 (6)
"Sunday Service" (page 19)
Superannuated Preachers. (See **Retired Ministers** and **Conference Claimants**)
Supererogation, Works of (Article), 11
Superintendent Foreign Mission, 422 §§1, 2
Superintendent Mission, Recommendation of, 163
Superintendent Mission Conference, 96 §§3, 4
Superintendents City Missions, Appointment of, 208 §3 (8)
Supernumerary Ministers:
Change of Boundaries, 565 §2
Marriages by, 187
Produce of Book Concern, 46 §6
Quarterly Conference Membership, 187, 568 §2
Relation of, 187
Supervision, Episcopal:
Contiguous and Continuous, 559
Plan of Residential, 560
Supply Preachers, Relief for, 576
Support:
Bishops, 329–332
Conference Claimants, 333–344
Deaconesses, 230 §3, 237
District Superintendents, 326–328
Missionary Bishops, 195
Pastors, 323–325
Supply Preachers, 224, 576
Suspension of Ministers, 252 §3, §4, 266, 298
Sustentation Fund Societies, 324
Swearing (General Rules), 30
Swedish Course of Study, 616–623
Systematic Giving, 71 §2

T

Teacher:
Heresy of, 212, 255, 256
Retirement Fund, 460 §8
Temper, Etc., Improper, 258, 273 §1
Temperance:
Abstinence, 492 §2, 583
Advice on, 70 §1
Annual Conference Board, 492 §6
Anti-Saloon League, 583
Board of, etc.
Central Office, 492 §4, 543
Constitution of, 492
Duty of Managers, 492 §5
General Secretary, 492 §4, 531 §2, 543
Managers, 492 §3, §4, 543
Meetings of Managers, 492 §3
Object of, 492 §2
Officers of, 492 §4, 543
Organization of, 492 §1
Vacancies in, 492 §4
Church Temperance Society, 583
District Superintendent, Duty of, 492 §7
Drunkenness (General Rules), 30
Enforcement of Law, 583
Epworth Leagues, Abstinence by, 492 §2
Federal Action, 583
Intoxicating Liquors, Using, etc., Trial for, 279 §2
Liquors, Buying, etc. (General Rules), 30
License System, 583
Pastors, Duty of, 182 §20, 492 §7
Political action, 583
Prohibition, 583
Quarterly Conference, 107 §10 (6), 108 §25 (7), 492 §7
Sunday Schools
Abstinence of, 492 §2
Organized, 477 §3, 492 §7
Wine for Sacrament, 182 §16, 516
Temporal Economy:
General Conference Committee, 554, Rule 35, VI, Rule 40 §3 (6)

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

Temporal Economy (*continued*)
Ministerial Support, Church Property, Ladies' Aid Societies, 314–378
Ten Commandments, 511
Testament, The Old. (See **Scripture**)
Testimony. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Theological Schools, 255, 256
Certificates from, 597 §§1, 2, 4
Heresy in, 212, 255, 256
Time, Use of, 135–137
Tobacco:
Advice on, 70 §2
Local Preachers to Abstain from, 220 §1
Question Asked of Ministerial Applicants, 81 §2, 157 §1 (2), 162
Tracts:
Cost of, 389 §2
District Superintendent, Duty of, 405
Duty of Pastor, 182 §§22, 23
Editor of, 395
Quarterly Conference Action, 107 §10 (5), 405
Societies, 404
Supplied by Book Committee, 389 §2
Training Schools. (See **Deaconesses**)
Transfers:
Members of Church, 55, 56
Pastor's Family, 55 §6
Ministers, 80 §2, §15, 203
Traveling Elders. (See **Ministers**)
Traveling Expenses, 323 §2, 330
Traveling Preachers. (See **Ministers**)
Treasure on Earth (General Rules), 30
Treasurers:
Annual Conference
Duties of Treasurer, 88, 90, 92
General Conference Fund, 232 §2
Moneys for Board Conference Claimants, 337
Official Vouchers, 588
Report, Board of Conference Claimants, 487 §1
Treasurers (*continued*)
Report of, 80 §§29–34
Board of Temperance, Moneys to, 492 §7
Episcopal Fund
Address, Post Office, of Treasurer, 532
Apportionments Forwarded to, 331
Duties of, 332
Election of, 332
Payments to Bishops, 330
Freedmen's Aid, Assistant, 453 §3
General Conference Expenses
Compensation of, 384 §1
Duties of Treasurer, 384 §1
Election of, 384 §1
Fund, 384 §1
Report of, 558
Local Treasurer
Ministerial Support, 327
Two in Each Appointment, 410 §5
See also **Boards** and **Societies.**
Trial. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Triers of Appeals. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Trinity, The (Article), 1
Trust Funds, Auditing and Bonding, 377
Trustees:
Annual Conference, 361
Chartered Fund, 493 §1, §6, 494, 545
Local Church
Appointment and Duties, 345–352
Church Property Abandoned, 362
Conveyance of Property, 353–356
Election of, 347, 348
Mortgage and Sale of Property, 360, 361
Parsonage Property, 366
Quarterly Conference Approval, 108 §1
Removal by Quarterly Conference, 568 §1
When No Trustees, 367
Methodist Episcopal Church, 369–376, 546

[Numbers refer to Paragraphs.]

U

Unacceptable Preacher, 263, 273 §2
Unction, Extreme (Article), 16
Unfermented Wine, 516
Unification and Federation, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 589
Union Among Ourselves, 138, 139
Union with Other Churches, 573, 590
United Societies, Rise of (page 17)
United Society (General Rules), 27
United States, Rulers of (page 19, (Article) 23
University Senate, 467, 538
Usury (General Rules), 30

V

Vacancies Filled:
In Election Board, 93 §4
See also **Boards, Commissions,** and **Societies**
Vasey, Thomas (page 18)
Veterans' Day, 335 §3
Visiting, 108 §39, 162 (17), 182 §20
Voting:
Members of Conference Absent, 505 §3
By Orders, 45
Two-Thirds Vote, 561
Voucher, Benevolence, 588

W

Watch Night, 182 §8
Webb, Thomas (page 17)
Week of Prayer, 581
Weekly Offerings, 410 §3
Wesley, Charles (page 17)
Wesley, John (pages 17–19), 26
West Indies (page 19)
Western Christian Advocate 397 §1, §2, §9, 530 §1
Whatcoat, Richard (page 18)
Widows and Children. (See **Conference Claimants**)
Will, Free (Article), 8
Wine for Sacrament, 182 §16, 516
Withdrawals:
Church Member, 59
Minister Accused, 80 §20, 269
Minister in Good Standing, 80 §19, 171, 172
Witnesses. (See **Judicial Administration**)
Woman's Foreign Society:
At District Conference, 101 §7
Deaconess Institutions, 234 §3
Direction of Work, 429 §4
Foreign Deaconess Board, 240 §2
Funds, 430
Government, 429 §1
Missionaries, 429 §3
Quarterly Conference Oversight, 107 §8, 108 §26 (9)
Supervision of Board, 429 §2
Woman's Home Society:
At District Conference, 101 §7
Deaconess Institutions, 234 §3
Organization, 450
Quarterly Conference Oversight, 107 §8, 108 §26 (10)
Women, Licensing and Ordaining, 567 §4
Word, The (Article), 2
Works:
Good (Article), 10
Of Supererogation (Article), 11
Worship:
Attending (General Rules), 32
Neglect of, 281
Order of Public, 72
Wright, Richard (page 18)

Z

Zion's Herald, 208 §3 (3)

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